

Arthur Miall
THE 18 Bowrie St. E.C.
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 991.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, OCT. 26, 1864.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 6d.
STAMPED 6d.

REOPENING of TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD CHAPEL.

The CONCLUDING SERVICES connected with the OPENING of this CHAPEL will be held as follows:—

On THURSDAY EVENING, the 27th October,
The Rev. JAMES W. BOULDING, Minister of the Chapel,
will Preach.
Service to commence at Seven o'clock.

On SUNDAY, the 30th October,
The Rev. JAMES PARSONS, of York, will Preach
Morning and Evening; and
The Rev. JAMES W. BOULDING in the Afternoon.
Services to commence at Eleven, Three, and Half-past Six
o'clock.

Collection after each Service.

As about 1,200l. of the 3,000l. proposed to be raised during the Opening Services is yet to be obtained, the Committee of the London Congregational Chapel-Building Society appeal with all earnestness for prompt and generous co-operation in completing the Subscription.

TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD CHAPEL.

This noble sanctuary—erected by the immortal Whitefield; the sacred birthplace and blessed home of a multitude of souls; the resting place of many who "sleep in Jesus"; rescued from threatened desecration; enfranchised from legal bondage; renovated, adorned, and fitted with every appliance for Christian work; invested with power for the free action of a self-governing church—has now been afresh dedicated to the worship of God, and is, with its new minister in Whitefield's pulpit, thronged by eager and attentive congregations.

The responsibilities of this enterprise have been accepted by the Committee of the London Congregational Chapel Building Society. The purchase of the building has cost about 4,700l.; the erection of schoolrooms 1,275l., and internal and external improvements, including lighting and warming, 3,295l.; making a total of about 9,270l. To meet this outlay 5,000l. is raised on mortgage (the charge upon which is, with the exception of 70l., provided for by sundry rentals), and 1,270l. has been received as special contributions; leaving a balance of 3,000l.

An appeal is now made—solemnly and hopefully made—for the entire liquidation of this floating debt, and that this may be accomplished during the series of opening services ending on the last Sunday of October, with sermons to be preached by the Rev. JAMES PARSONS, for many years one of the stated preachers of this venerable house of prayer. Who is there that will not find it a joy to have a share in a work so hallowed as a memorial of the past, and so momentous in its promise for the future?

The following contributions are paid or promised:—

	£	s.	d.
London Congregational Chapel Building Society, Grant	500	0	0
Do. Do. Loan (without interest)	500	0	0
R. Morley, Esq.	200	0	0
John Finch, Esq.	100	0	0
J. Haycraft, Esq.	50	0	0
H. Spicer, Esq.	50	0	0
W. R. Spicer, Esq.	50	0	0
H. Rutt, Esq.	25	0	0
E. Smith, Esq.	20	0	0
G. F. White, Esq.	20	0	0
A. M. Ball, Esq.	10	10	0
Rev. J. Campbell, D.D.	10	10	0
J. Carter, Esq.	10	10	0
J. Harvey, Esq.	10	10	0
W. Edgar, Esq.	10	0	0
"In Memoriam"	10	0	0
T. Morgan, Esq.	10	0	0
J. Sidebottom, Esq.	10	0	0
Joshua Wilson, Esq.	10	0	0
H. Wright, Esq.	10	0	0
J. G. Sparke, Esq., M.D.	5	5	0
J. Alexander, Esq.	5	0	0
A. Friend (by E. Smith, Esq.)	5	0	0
H. Bidgood, Esq.	5	0	0
E. Burkitt, Esq.	5	0	0
J. Clapham, Esq.	5	0	0
J. Hall, Esq. (Keelby)	5	0	0
Rev. J. S. Pearsall	5	0	0
C. Shephard, Esq.	5	0	0
Mrs. John Jones	2	2	0
Rev. E. Prout	2	0	0
Mr. T. Savage (Bristol)	2	0	0

Contributions will be thankfully received by Eusebius Smith, Esq., Treasurer, London Congregational Chapel Building Society, 7, Blomfield-street, Finsbury, London, E.C.
26th October, 1864.

ST. LEONARD'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

This place of worship will be opened on THURSDAY, October 27th, when TWO SERMONS will be preached,—in the Morning by the Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN, of Westminster, in the Evening by the Rev. JOHN STOUTON, of Kensington.

After the Morning Service a DINNER will be provided in the Schoolroom, at Two o'clock precisely.

On the SUNDAY following, the Rev. JAMES GRIFFIN, of Hastings, will preach in the Morning, and the Rev. Dr. VAUGHAN in the Evening.

Subscriptions on behalf of the Building Fund will be gladly received by the Rev. A. Reed, St. Leonard's-on-Sea; and by Joseph Arnold, Esq., treasurer, St. Leonard's-on-Sea.

STATIONERY, PRINTING, ACCOUNT BOOKS, and every requisite for the Counting-house. Qualities and prices will compare advantageously with any house in the trade. ASH and FLINT, 49, Fleet-street, City, E.C., and opposite the Railway Stations, London-bridge, S.E.

ALBERTLAND, AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.

The TWELFTH VESSEL, under the auspices of the CHRISTIAN COLONISATION ASSOCIATION, will sail on the 1st NOVEMBER, 1864. The favourite Clipper GANGES, 2,000 tons, has been specially engaged for the conveyance of this party. 40 ACRES AND UPWARDS OF LAND FREE.

For particulars apply early (pre-paid) to Samuel Brame, 3, St. Mary Axe, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.; or to 73, Edmund-street, Birmingham.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, MAITLAND PARK, HAVERSTOCK-HILL, N.W.

Instituted May 10, 1758, for Children of Both Sexes, and from any part of the United Kingdom.

Under the immediate Patronage of
Her Most Gracious MAJESTY the QUEEN.
His Royal Highness the PRINCE of WALES.

The 213th Half-yearly Meeting of Governors was held at the London Tavern, on Thursday, October 20, 1864, for the ELECTION of THIRTY-FIVE ORPHAN CHILDREN, out of a List of 129 Candidates, when, at the close of the Ballot, the following were declared to be successful:—

1 Bradbeer, Jno. Thos.	548	19 Woodward, Richard	415
2 Thorpe, Fredk.	536	20 Kear, Fredk. Allen	412
3 Rolfs, Chas. Creek	532	21 Hill, Wm. Thos.	408
4 Downey, Alfred Dyer	521	22 Swift, Edwd.	385
5 Green, Ernest Lurow	520	23 Howard, John	383
6 Atterbury, Josh. John	501	24 Packer, Hugh M.	335
7 Alsop, Etherington J.	500	25 Hingle, Jno.	328
8 Lynch, Wm Hy.	486	26 Groves, Fred. Matthew	347
9 Foster, Joseph Hy.	485	27 Taylor, Wm.	325
10 Reed, Robert	480	28 Fewster, George	315
11 Yearliffe, Joseph	467	29 Wright, Joseph	278
12 Willcocks, John	461	30 Rice, Richard	246
13 Jackson, Charles	450	31 Saunders, Wm	234
14 Hancock, Harry Edwd.	447	32 Austen, Percy B.	226
15 Palmer, Jas. Ebenezer	443	33 Wimberley, B. D. R.	204
16 Footman, James R.	440	34 Stevenson, Robert	195
17 Purvis, James	437	35 Ough, Hy. Charles	191
18 Neale, Jno. Wm.	430		

Resolved unanimously,—That the best thanks of this meeting be presented to J. J. Tanner, Esq., V.P., for presiding this day, and to the Scrutineers for their care in taking the ballot.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

THIRTY-FIVE ORPHANS will be again ELECTED in APRIL. Forms to fill up may be obtained on application. 400 Children might be accommodated if the requisite Funds were available to maintain them. Contributions are much needed, and are very earnestly solicited, not only for the general purposes of the Charity, but for new infirmaries now being erected at a cost of 1,800l.

Life Subscription of a Governor, 10l. 10s. and upwards; of a Subscriber, 5l. 5s.; Annual Subscription of a Governor, 1l. 1s. and upwards; of a Subscriber, 10s. 6d.; the votes increasing with the amount contributed.

THE SURGICAL AID SOCIETY.

OFFICES:—17, AVE MARIA-LANE, ST. PAUL'S, E.C.
President—The Right Hon. the Earl of SHAFTESBURY, K.G.
The Committee desire to direct special attention to the comprehensive and national character of this Society, which is not limited in its operations to any particular locality, or for the relief of any particular disease, but is intended to supply Spinal Appliances, Crutches, Elastic Stockings, Trusses, and every other description of mechanical support gratuitously to the multitudes of deserving poor in all parts of the kingdom.

Subscribers of Ten Shillings and Sixpence or upwards per annum, and Donors of Five Guineas or upwards at one time, will be Governors, and will be entitled to two recommendations during the year for each Half-Guinea subscribed, or Five Guineas given.

Subscriptions and Donations on behalf of the Society are earnestly solicited, and will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, W. Gray, Esq., 2, Peter's-alley, Cornhill; by the Bankers, Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, Twells, and Co., Lombard-street; or by the Secretary, at the Offices of the Society, 17, Ave Maria-lane, St. Paul's.

WILLIAM TRESIDDER, Secretary.

HOSPITAL for SICK CHILDREN, 49, GREAT ORMOND-STREET, W.C.

Patron—Her Majesty the QUEEN.

This Hospital is not Endowed, but is wholly dependent on Voluntary Contributions for support.

FUNDS are urgently needed.

F. H. DICKINSON, Chairman.

BANKERS:

Williams, Deacon, Co.; Messrs. Hoare; Messrs. Herries.

FORSYTH'S TEMPERANCE HOTELS.—FORSYTH'S "COBDEN" HOTEL, 87, ARGYLE-STREET, GLASGOW. Central, Elegantly Furnished, Commodious, and Perfectly Ventilated. Also FORSYTH'S HOTEL, ABERDEEN.

WANTED, by the Committee of the Bradford Town Mission, a SUPERINTENDENT to take the SUPERVISION of the MISSIONARIES, Collect all the Subscriptions, and discharge the Duties of the Secretaryship. In addition to which he will be expected to have a small district for personal missionary work. Salary, 10l. per annum.

Applications by letter, enclosing Testimonials, to be forwarded, not later than the 25th inst., to Mr. B. Crowther, Town Mission Office, Bradford, Yorkshire.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING.—Important to PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—YOUNG MEN are TRAINED in MECHANICAL and THEORETICAL ENGINEERING.

For particulars, apply to E. Hayes, Engineer, Watling Works, Stony Stratford, Bucks.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.

The fallacy of the late Non-Spiritual Manifestations (so-called).—New Lecture, with curious illustrations, by Mr. J. L. King, daily at One, and every evening except Friday and Saturday at Quarter-past Seven, commencing Monday, 24th October. The Ghost Illusions as usual (J. H. Pepper and Henry Dircks, joint inventors) by Mr. J. L. King.—New Musical Entertainment by Mr. R. Coote, illustrating the Story of "Sindbad the Sailor."—Paganini's Ghost will perform daily, at 4.30 and 8.45, all those difficult variations on one string and with one hand for which the late Paganini was so celebrated.—Open, Twelve to Five, and Seven to Ten.

HEATING APPARATUS for SALE.

BLAKE'S PATENT APPARATUS is especially adapted for WARMING all kinds of BUILDINGS.

For price, send length, width, and height of building to G. Blake, Warming and Ventilating Engineer, Leicester. Testimonials post free.

PREPARATORY EDUCATION for YOUNG GENTLEMEN.

GROVE HOUSE, THE GLEBE, CHAMBERWELL, S.

Principal, MISS LANGFON, daughter of Mr. J. Langton, M.A. Lord, Head Master, Boys' Model School, Borough-road, London.

The arrangements for Boarders are superintended by Mrs. LANGTON.

Reference is kindly permitted to the Rev. Hugh Allen, D.D., Rector of St. George's, Southwark, S.E.; the Rev. Edward Steane, D.D., New House Park, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire; the Rev. Charles Stanford, 11, Grove-hill-terrace, Chamberwell, S.; Matthew Henry Hodder, Esq., 69, The Grove, Chamberwell, S.; Hugh Owen, Esq., Gwydyr House, Whitehall, S.W.; Thomas Young, Esq., 1, The Crescent, Chamberwell-grove, S.

A Prospectus sent on application.

COMMERCIAL SCHOOL, CRANFORD HALL, near HOUNSLOW, is conducted with special regard to the requirements of the Sons of respectable Tradesmen and Farmers.

Mr. VERNY is assisted by experienced resident Teachers—English and Foreign. The Pupils are carefully trained in good habits, and fitted for active Business Pursuits. The premises are extensive, and contain every convenience; the situation is high and healthy; the food is of the best description and unlimited; and the terms are moderate.

A Prospectus forwarded upon application; and Pupils admitted at any time.

HOME, with EDUCATION, for LITTLE GIRLS.

Miss VINCENT (Sister of Mr. Henry Vincent), has had long experience in Teaching, and can confidently undertake the Training of Young Children. Her House is in a very healthy situation, and the strictest attention is paid to the comfort of those entrusted to her care.

Apply for prospectus and references to 15, Alfred-place, Talbot-road, Camden-road Villas, N.

BOARDING SCHOOL for TRADESMEN'S SONS, ROCHFORD, ESSEX.

Principal—Mr. GEORGE FOSTER.

Terms, 20l. per annum. Circulars at Messrs. Mead and Powell's, 73, Cheapside.

N.B. Preparatory Department at Forest-hill

LONDON.—To MINISTERS, CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, and others.—Mrs. BERNARD respectfully solicits the kind patronage and recommendation of the above to her Private Hotel and Family Boarding House; thoroughly clean and well-aired beds insured; about five minutes' walk from King's-cross, twelve to City Terminus, where there are 2d. omnibuses to all parts. 1, Granville-square, Wharton-street, King's-cross-road. Bed, breakfast and attendance, 3s.

BEFORE YOU FURNISH,

have an estimate from, or visit the Establishment of, BRANSBY BROTHERS, Furniture, Patent Bedsteads and Bedding Makers, Complete House Furnishers, Upholsterers, and Carpet Factors, 121 and 123, Old Kent-road, London, S.E. (next to Bricklayers' Arms Station). All goods warranted, and delivered carriage and packing free to any house in the kingdom. Established 1823.

COALS.—Best Sunderland, 26s.; Newcastle or Hartlepool, 25s.; best Silkstone, 23s.; Clay Cross, 23s. and 20s.; Coke, per chaldron, 15s.

B. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union Wharfs, Regent's park; Chief Offices: 109 and 266, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—Best Coals only.—GEO. J. COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 27s. per ton cash for the BEST SCREENED COALS, as supplied by them to her Majesty and H. R. H. the Prince of Wales—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Purfleet-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars, E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Grosvenor-canal, Pimlico, S.W.; Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.; and Durham-wharf, Wandsworth, S.W.; and at Brighton.

COALS.—By SCREW STEAMERS and RAILWAY.—LEA and CO.'S price for HETTON, HASWELL, or LAMBTON WALLSEND, the best House Coal direct from the Collieries by screw steamers, 65l. the Great Northern Railway, is 26s. per ton; Hartlepool, 25l.; Silkstone, 1st-class, 13s.; second-class, 22s.; Clay Cross, 23s. and 20s.; Tanfield Moor, for Smiths, 18s.; Bargooley, 19s.; Hartley, 18s.; best small, 12s. Coke, 15s. per chaldron. Net cash. Delivered, thoroughly screened, to any part of London. All orders to LEA and COMPANY'S Offices, Highbury, N.; Kingsland, N.E.; Great Northern Railway Coal Department, King's-cross, N.; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's park Basin, N.W. No Travellers or Agents employed.



ATLANTIC and GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.

Offices—2, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

ISSUE OF SECOND MORTGAGE BONDS
(Ohio Division).

PAYABLE IN LONDON.

4,000,000 dollars. Due in 1883.

Coupons due 1st January and 1st July.

Secured by a Registered Mortgage on the Income and all Corporate Rights, Privileges, Lands, Franchises, Plant and Property of the Ohio Division of the Railway.

The Bonds are redeemable at par in New York, or in London at 4s. 6d. per dollar, and are transferable without stamp or endorsement: Interest Coupons are attached to the Bonds, payable semi-annually at the Consolidated Bank in London, at the fixed rate of 4s. to the dollar. The Bonds will be issued at 66, at which rate Bonds of 1,000 dollars will cost £148 10s., carrying Coupons due January 1st, 1865.

The Coupons represent £14 per annum on each Bond of 1,000 dollars, or 9½ per cent. interest on price of issue.

The several divisions of the ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY have been consolidated under the Government of James Robb, Esq., whose reputation as a banker and railway administrator is established in Europe as well as in America. Mr. Robb, as President of the ATLANTIC AND GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY, joins the direction of the Erie and other lines forming the through route between New York and St. Louis, so as to secure unity of action.

The price of issue has been fixed at 66.

The terms of issue are as follows:—

5 per cent. on application, being £11 5 0 per Bond of \$1,000	
10 " on allotment, " 22 10 0 " " "	
15 " 19th November, " 33 15 0 " " "	
16 " 19th December, " 33 15 0 " " "	
21 " 19th January, " 47 5 0 less £7 Coupon due 1st January.	
	£148 10 0

Subscribers have the option of paying the instalments in advance, and will be allowed a discount of 9 per cent. per annum on such prepayments.

After allotment, scrip certificates will be issued to "bearer." These certificates will be exchanged for bonds to "bearer" on payment of the final instalment.

Forms of application may be obtained at the Consolidated Bank: or at the offices of the Company, No. 2, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.: or of

E. F. SATTERTHWAITE, Broker,

88, Throgmorton-street, London, E.C.

London, October 12th, 1864.

ATLANTIC and GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

ISSUE OF SECOND MORTGAGE BONDS, payable in LONDON.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that NO APPLICATION for these BONDS will be received after the 31st inst. By order.

No. 2, Old Broad-street, Oct. 21, 1864.

THE FIFTH DIVISION OF PROFIT UP TO THE 20TH NOVEMBER, 1862.**NATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION,**

GRACECHURCH-STREET, LONDON.

Established December, 1835.

MUTUAL ASSURANCE WITHOUT INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY.

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Amount of Profit of the five years ending 20th November, 1862 £531,965 3 4

Making the total Profit divided .. £1,227,258 5 3
INSTANCES OF REDUCTIONS IN PREMIUMS.

Date of Policy.	Age	Sum Assured.	Original Premium.	Premium now Payable.	Reduction per Cent.
October, 1836	49	1,000	43 11 8	0 7 10	99
March, 1840	48	200	8 10 4	1 19 4	77
January, 1839	36	1,000	29 10 0	10 12 8	64
December, 1850	58	2,000	126 0 0	64 6 8	49
January, 1852	35	500	14 11 8	9 2 8	37½
January, 1859	49	3,000	132 0 0	98 7 10	25½

The following are a few instances wherein the Premiums have become extinct, and Annuities for the next five years granted in addition:—

Date of Policy.	Age.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium now extinct.	Annuity Payable.
April, 1836 ..	54	1,000	52 0 0	8 8 8
August, 1836 ..	56	500	29 3 4	9 1 3
August, 1837 ..	60	2,000	135 3 4	75 6 8
March, 1842 ..	61	500	32 19 2	1 17 4

Amount of Claims Paid 1,453,608 6 10

Gross Annual Income 378,337 17 10

Accumulated Fund 2,308,056 14 9

Members whose premiums fall due on the 1st October are reminded that the same must be paid within thirty days from that date.

The prospectus and every information may be had on application.

Sept. 22, 1864.

JOSEPH MARSH, Secretary.

DEBENTURES at 5, 5½, and 6 PER CENT.—The Ceylon Company, Limited

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The Directors are prepared to issue Debentures for one, three, and five years, at 5, 5½, and 6 per cent. respectively; they are also prepared to issue Money on Mortgage in Ceylon and Mauritius, either with or without the guarantee of the Company, as may be arranged.

Applications for particulars to be made at the Offices of the Company, No. 12, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C.

(By order)

JOHN ANDERSON, Secretary.

COLMAN'S GENUINE MUSTARD.

TRADE MARK.

On each



THE BULL'S HEAD,

Package.

At the Great Exhibition, 1862,

OBTAINED THE

ONLY PRIZE MEDAL

For "Purity and Excellence of Quality."

Sold by all Grocers, Druggists, &c., throughout the United Kingdom.

J. and J. COLMAN, 26, Cannon-street, London, E.C.

Third Issue of 10,000 Shares, at Ten Shillings per Share Premium.

THE ESTATES BANK, LIMITED. (Late the Alliance National Land, Building, and Investment Company, Limited.)

Incorporated under the Companies' Act, 1862, by which the Liability of Shareholders is limited to the amount of their Shares.

Capital, £500,000, in 50,000 Shares of £10 per Share. Deposit, 10s. per Share on Application, and 10s. per Share on Allotment. Premium, 10s. per Share, to be paid on Application. No Calls to exceed 10s. per Share, nor to be at less Intervals than Three Months, and not less than Two Calendar Months' notice of each Call to be given. It is not intended to call up more than £5 per Share at any time.

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NORTH-WEST OF IRELAND BRANCH.

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Surveyor—John G. Ferguson, Esq., Londonderry.

Secretary—J. H. Bible, Esq., Londonderry.

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Joseph A. Horner, Esq.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 991.]

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

"THE POLICY OF NONCONFORMIST ELECTORS."

WE insert elsewhere a letter from the Rev. W. Robinson, of Cambridge, on the project broached at the late autumnal meeting of the Baptist Union at Birmingham, and on "the policy of Nonconformist electors" relating thereto. We fear we cannot honestly give him an assurance that his further explanations of the mode in which he desires the Church Establishment question to be put to issue in this country have tended to remove from our minds our previous apprehension of the difficulties which his plan will have to encounter.

If we succeeded last week in making ourselves understood, our readers, we imagine, would gather from our observations that, so far from objecting to a bold, direct, and manly course of proceeding—to one calculated to enlist the energies and sympathies of religious men—to one that would bring ultimate principles into Parliamentary discussion—we should rejoice in seeing our way clear to the adoption of it. We have honestly, and, we think, consistently, worked hitherto with this aim in view. We may have been mistaken in the practical policy which appeared to us best suited to the state of popular opinion, and to the means within our reach. But we have no overweening confidence in our own judgment. So far as we are concerned, we not only could substitute another policy for that which we have commended, but, if it promised better results, we should be delighted to do so, without the slightest reference to the quarter in which it may have originated. But experience has taught us to look behind excellent proposals for something approaching to the force necessary to give them effect. We regret to say that Mr. Robinson's letter does not make known to us the existence of such force. We do not deny its existence—but merely assert that he has failed to satisfy our reason that it does exist, or that the adoption of his method will call it into being.

We think him over-sanguine in the inferences he draws from the reception of his motion by the Baptist ministers and messengers. We wish we could augur as much as he does from that fact, even in regard to opinion only. We are afraid, however, that when that declaration of opinion comes to be put to a practical test, involving actual sacrifices of time, money, the esteem of friends, and prospects of immediate and local usefulness, the result, even among the Baptists, will be less inspiring. We should be glad to be able to believe that Dissenters generally would hail his project with unexampled unanimity, and that such dissatisfaction as is felt respecting the course now being actually pursued, arises from a conviction that it is too tentative, too timid, too circuitous, and too slow. If his movement should only bring out that fact, he will be entitled to our heartiest thanks. When

he says, "We are weary of being sappers and miners. Our health suffers by burrowing under ground. We want to move in broad daylight, and under a flag on which our great principle and the name of our Lord are written in large characters of light," we thoroughly concur with him; but we submit to him that it is of some importance to ascertain who they are that are truly described in these eloquent terms. Do they constitute any large proportion of the Free Churches of England? If so, the patent proofs of it have been anything but obtrusive. Our friend may speak for himself, for the Baptist Union, possibly, for many others—but does he represent correctly the feeling of the numbers upon whom he counts for sending up "thousands of weighty petitions" to the House of Commons? We fear that he has not fairly gauged the depth of Dissenting concern about this matter—that his imagination has taken fire from its own heat—and that whenever he takes his first step to give reality to his programme, he will find "Old Adam too strong for young Melancthon."

Mr. Robinson gives us an imaginary conversation between an elector and a candidate, in which the logic is all on the side of the elector, and the concessions all on the side of the candidate. It is a pity that electioneering contests are not governed solely by logic—but unfortunately they are not. We can conceive of instances in which some such dialogue might pass—but does our friend really suppose that the general policy of this country will be greatly influenced by posing the class of men (who usually solicit our votes? How many of the electoral body, for instance, could be prevailed upon to insist at the poll upon "the crown rights of our Lord Jesus Christ"? How many really recognise them for themselves? Have even the Free Churches been educated up to any practical appreciation of this most important doctrine? Would that we could believe it! Mr. Robinson says very truly, "the first step must be taken by the people." Are "the people" intelligently prepared to take this first step? If not, can it be taken with any reasonable anticipation of a successful issue? Why, there is difficulty enough in some places in getting Nonconformist electors to stand firmly by even the abolition of Church-rates when party influences are brought into play against it. Is he sanguine enough to hope that constituencies in general would rise up "to the height of his great argument"? If ever they do so—of which we do not despair—they will have been prepared for it by a course of earnest and enlightened teaching such as few of the Free Churches, we suspect, even among our Baptist friends, have yet enjoyed. Well, then, so far as the opinion of Nonconformists is concerned, and so far as the religious feeling and determination of the Nonconforming portion of the constituencies are concerned, Mr. Robinson's letter does not convince us that there is a reliable force behind his proposition. We dare not accept his rather vague and sanguine anticipations as sufficient warrant for an immediate adoption of his plan. We desiderate greater precision in his "working specifications." We have no objection to storm the fortress—but we submit that he has not assured "the forlorn hope" of necessary support.

If now we turn from the constituencies to Parliament, we find the same lack of definite and practical conceptions of what is to be done. "Surely," he says, "there are and will be, men in the House who, backed by thousands of weighty petitions, will be both able and willing to move for inquiry." Perhaps so—though even this momentous matter rests only on conjecture. Our apprehension is rather that there may be men willing enough to take that step, but not the best qualified to do it justice. Mr. Robinson seems to think that the supporters of the Establishment have only to speak and argue, and they will expose the unsoundness of their own pretensions. We are afraid that he underrates their power. There is such a thing as making the worse appear the better cause. True, a David with a sling and a stone may bring a Goliath

clad in complete armour to the ground. But, at least, let us be certified that he is a David, and that God is with him. Seriously, the feasibility of the plan depends very much, under God, upon the resources in debate which can be commanded in furtherance of it. We shall not trouble our readers with a repetition of the observations we ventured to make last week on this aspect of the case. Mr. Robinson has not broken their force by anything contained in his letter. Indeed, he does not appear to consider that they have force. Here, as elsewhere, everything is to come right without pre-arrangement, without serious preparation, without resort to the appliances usually made use of by practical good-sense. So far as we can see, the programme is to secure its own success. If it do, we can only say that, in this respect, it will differ widely from the grandest and most beneficent conceptions that, hitherto, have been realised by man. We admit that even a few may "bear testimony" to a divine truth, without care for consequences—but to bear a testimony is one thing—to inaugurate a policy is another.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

IF in anything the gentlemen who represented the Congregational Union at Hull are to be congratulated, it is for the spirit by which the proceedings which we report to-day were characterised. The tone of Mr. Allon's address seems to have been caught by almost every speaker. There was a clear recognition of distinctive principles, but no exaggerated exaltation of them. There was vindication of the sect, but no sectarianism. There was the form of ecclesiastical order, but it was filled by the spirit of Godliness. The proceedings of the meeting for the illustration of Congregational principles afford perhaps the best indication of the reality and genuineness of this spirit. Mr. Sidebottom rightly enlarged on the desirableness of instilling Nonconformist principles into the minds of the young, but he enlarged with greater warmth on the necessity for increased evangelistic effort; the Rev. G. W. Conder happily pointed out how, if they had had Acts of Parliament to unite them, they might now have been in the divided condition of the Established Church—as it was, no ecclesiastical body, however constituted or organised, could show a greater unity of doctrine; Dr. Vaughan concluded a noble address with these words:—"I am not here to say anything against any man's form or creed, but simply to plead for Christ's truth and for all that may contribute to diffuse His religion over the conscience and heart of man"; lastly, a Presbyterian moved a vote of thanks to the chairman. Not in so many words was it said, but we believe there were at least some present at this meeting, who, even after the illustrations of distinctively Congregational principles, felt that they would be willing to see their Church sink to nothing, and be blotted out of future history if thereby Christ's Kingdom in the hearts of men, could be advanced. If men and churches have not arrived at this, they are yet more sectarian than they are Christian.

In the ultimate success of the Pastors' Retiring Fund, one reproach will be removed from the practical working of the Voluntary principle. It is gratifying to find that this scheme is making progress. The deputation from the United Presbyterian Synod went to pay a first courting visit to the Congregationalists. We have an impression that they flatter themselves their advances will be received. They were confident, cheerful, and even gay, as though they were already successful suitors. We need hardly say they were received with courtesy, if not with a little, and under the circumstances, natural, coquetry; but they went away, as they will go to the end of their lives, without even a promise. Our friends must be satisfied with a Platonic affection. The paper of the Rev. S. Heb-

ditch, of Bristol, on "Spiritual Life in the Churches," is one scarcely to be criticised, but certainly to be read, as, also, is the discussion which succeeded it. We take it that the primary object of the formation of the Congregational Union was best illustrated and accomplished in this portion of the proceedings.

We are glad to find that the principles of Voluntary Education were not forgotten, and that a wider range was taken at the customary breakfast in connexion with the Board of Education than has sometimes been the case. The Rev. E. R. Conder struck the right chord at this meeting in asking, "Was it, and could it be a right, a profitable, or a desirable thing that the education of their children should be pauperised? It was a point of immense importance that the moral effect, on the one hand, of pauperising education, and, on the other, of making the working classes feel that education was worth paying for, and that they ought and were able to pay, should be borne in mind." Mr. Jukes' speech was equally to the point. We are glad to see Mr. Baines still sanguine with respect to the future of this question. For ourselves, we feel that there is none in which circumstances are so rapidly guiding the nation to right issues. With this meeting the proceedings in connection with the Union closed. Taking them altogether, we look upon them as having been some of the most interesting of their kind which have been held. They should enlarge the heart, broaden the intellect, and quicken both the faith and the effort of the churches. Of course, if such results are not worked for and looked for they are not likely to occur. There is not only no "magic" in religion, but there is perhaps less of what appears to be such than there is in any other sphere of the life of the soul.

We all remember the delighted surprise with which the *Saturday Review* took up, some months ago, the Life of Dr. Andrew Reed, and with what vivid and intense curiosity it examined the style of thought and work of that blue flamingo of the *Reviewer's* world—a Nonconformist minister. It has now got hold of the Life of Dr. Raffles, and, minus that amount and degree of genteel cynicism which it is "the thing" for the *Saturday* to affect, treats it, on the whole, in a civilised manner. It is in "Cook's Voyages," we think, that the Otaheitan are represented as examining the skin of their European visitors with a mixture of wonder and awe. With an analogous feeling, but with contempt substituted for awe, the *Saturday* took up Dr. Reed's Life. Now, both the wonder and the contempt appear to have vanished, and the *Reviewer*, like the Otaheitan savage, has already become somewhat amenable to the influences of literary civilisation. Here, for instance, is a mark of progress:—

Nobody, in church or chapel, ever more thoroughly ruled his congregation than the Doctor did; and we believe the arrangement to have been an infinite blessing to the governed. Probably no congregation in England was less "independent," and none, therefore, more free from the evils of the anarchical self-will which is the bane of Nonconformist communities. In truth, his congregation were (barring the use of the stereotyped shibboleths on Sunday) as little like ordinary Dissenters as they could be; they were a well-to-do and unusually educated set of Christians, and could afford to let themselves be governed without feeling it necessary to snub their minister in order to keep up their self-importance.

This may not appear to some readers to be either very candid, just, or discerning; but six months ago the *Saturday* would not have conceded the fact there were any "well-to-do and unusually educated set of Christians" connected with Nonconformity. Still less would it have written of any "schismatic" minister, dead or living, such words as the following:—

Here we must leave Dr. Raffles—in many respects the best specimen of a Nonconformist minister, and in all respects the most fortunate, that the passing generation has known. The volume is excellently written, and sets him before us exactly as he was—very fond of preaching; very fond of noting down the multitudes that came to hear him, with an odd gratification at the "dreadful crowds" that crushed in the doorways, and the hundreds that were obliged to go away again; and with a crusty growl at people like the Hamburgers, where the congregation was "thin," or the Greenockers, who gave nothing but "large dishes of copper" in return for some "earnest pleadings"; very fond of order, and very clear about who was the best person to enforce it; very judicious, very genial, very kind-hearted, and a thorough Christian.

This is characteristic, but it is customary for human nature. No sooner does a great fact upset our prejudiced theories, than we say it is altogether exceptional. So Dr. Raffles, with the *Saturday*, is in "many respects the best," and "in all respects the most fortunate" Nonconformist minister that the passing generation has known. But the day may come when our reviewer will say, as we can, that, good as was Dr. Raffles's character, and pleasant as was his life, we yet have

A hundred as good as he.

We have referred to human nature, and now let us

confess that our human nature rejoices for a moment to see Archdeacon Denison assailing the *Saturday Review*. We are not "Godfrey of Bouillon," but Godfrey must have been delighted when he saw two "Paynim Knights" assailing each other with axe and sword. This is the story as it appears in the *Bath Chronicle*. A meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Societies was held last week, at which were present Archdeacon Denison, and, as it happened, a well-known contributor to the *Saturday Review*. The Archdeacon took occasion of the presence of this gentleman to have a humorous fling at the journal for which he writes. Now humour, as we all know, is of various kinds. There is the succulent humour of Dr. Cumming—the "Beemaster" of the *Times*—which makes you "grin a ghastly smile," and leaves your face for ever afterwards distorted. There is the acidulous humour of Douglas Jerrold, which in its first effect conduces to a slight denticular grinding, and afterwards to a broad grin, succeeded by such a hearty laugh as "shakes the sides." Lastly—not to be too particular—there is the waspish humour of Dean Swift, which has the effect on your humour which tincture of steel has on your teeth, freezing them and making you shiver from crown to sole. Of the latter kind is Archdeacon Denison's, and it is noticeable that only ecclesiastics are capable of waspish humour in its perfection. Well, the Dean, being a gentleman, and seeing a contributor to the *Saturday Review* before him, knowing that everybody was aware of his presence, and not thinking for the moment of the saying of the late Mr. Robertson, of Brighton, that the pulpit is the "coward's castle," forthwith attacks the *Saturday Review* and its style of writing. It is to be premised that the Archdeacon is editor, and, we believe, proprietor, of the *Church and State Review*. With this information the reader may be capable of relishing, after a fashion, the following report:—

There may be some very excellent people here who are unfortunate enough not to see the *Church and State Review*. If so, I can only say that they labour under a great misfortune, and I compassionate them—(laughter)—they save six shillings a year, and gain a great loss. (Renewed laughter.) An excellent friend of mine said to me the other day, "Yours is a first-rate review, but very dull. (Laughter.) It is not like the *Saturday Review*—that is what I mean." (Continued merriment.) Some people have great admiration for the *Saturday Review*—I have never been so affected. (Great laughter.) Count Montalembert was standing the other day in a room in London, close to the door, when the editor of the *Saturday Review* came up with his little boy—the little boy, twelve years old, had just come from Eton for his holidays. The count shook the youth by the hand, and said to him, "I suppose you have not much to do now—probably you write a good deal in the *Saturday Review*." (Loud laughter.) I do not think dram-drinking and stimulants good for the moral stamina of man. Indiscriminate abuse of anything people had hitherto thought honest, decent, and respectable, is not, I think, good food for the English mind. (Hear, hear.) I think I shall put in the hands of the reporters a quaint recipe for making a lively periodical upon on which I stumbled the other day. It is a very curious thing, undoubtedly old, and bears some traces of later adaptation. I am inclined to think a dull review is the best. (Laughter.) Any man not quite an idiot, nor wholly ignorant, can, with the aid of the helps mentioned in the recipe of which I have spoken, write very well in the *Saturday Review*, but it takes a man of some parts and information, decent character, and repute, to write in a dull review. (Great laughter.) The recipe alluded to by the venerable Archdeacon in the foregoing remarks, was handed to the representative of the *Bath Chronicle*, and we give our readers the benefit of "the curious thing," *verbatim et literatim*:—

TO MAKE A LIVELIE PERIODICALL.

1. of spite and venom.....one pound each.
2. of indiscriminate abuse.....four pounds.
3. of sneering at all things which have at any time been thought worthy, or respectable, or even decent.....six pounds.
4. of disparagement of old institutions, and particularly of the National Church.....three pounds.
5. of free handling of the Scriptures.....1 pound 8 ounces.
6. of measuring all things by what they will fetch.....ten pounds.

Some add one grain of faith and an ounce more or less of a definite policy: but it is livelier without. Mix well together, and cut into lengths.

Season and flavour with—

1. compound of calumnie.
2. drops of detraction.
3. spirits of slander.
4. spice of scepticism.

Garnish with root of ribaldie, sippets of slang, and bitter herbs. Serve up.—*Bath Chronicle*.

Ah! only "to see ourselves as others see us"! If indiscriminate abuse of anything people have hitherto thought honest, decent, and respectable, is not good food for the English mind, why does Archdeacon Denison continue the *Church and State Review*? And how does it happen that the Archdeacon is so minutely acquainted with the quantities necessary to make a "livelie periodical," and the precise amount of spite and venom, of sneering, of disparagement, of calumny, of detraction, of the spirits

of slander, and the spice of scepticism? Surely this is the recipe of an experienced cook! The fact is that the *Saturday* caters usually for "Literature, Science, and the Arts," and the Archdeacon "pro Ecclesia, pro Dei." This is the only difference. It is horrible, in the Archdeacon's estimation, to use these ingredients in mixing a dish for the world at large, but anything will do "for God and the Church," and in any quantity as against is not.

THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

AUTUMNAL MEETING AT HULL.

MEETING FOR THE ILLUSTRATION OF CONGREGATIONAL PRINCIPLES.

In our last number we briefly stated that a very crowded public meeting was held in Fish-street Chapel, Hull, on the evening of Tuesday, October 18, for the illustration and enforcement of Congregational principles; James Sidebottom, Esq., of Manchester, in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, in the course of his speech, said he feared that, in the majority of cases, the Congregational churches did not use legitimate means for the extension of their principles. He did not think that, as a general rule, their principles were sufficiently kept before their young people:—

I would not unnecessarily introduce the discussion of our principles into our pulpits, but on all occasions when the basis of the discourse permitted, let there be a simple yet full avowal of that which we profess to hold as important. There is, however, another place where much might be done. I refer to our Sabbath-schools. A finer field cannot be desired for instilling into the minds of our teachers and elder scholars those principles which we are met to-night to illustrate and enforce. If a lecture were delivered once a fortnight, or once a month during the winter, I believe it would be a great boon to our young people, and be highly appreciated by them. Of course these lectures must be delivered by men who can make the subject interesting and attractive, and we have many such amongst us. Then again I do not think as heads of families we are sufficiently alive to this subject; as fathers, do we talk sufficiently with our children, not in a bigoted and sectarian spirit, for that would do more harm than good, but in a kind and loving spirit, and thus interest them in principles which their parents deem important? But with this let me connect another point: Are the productions of the press connected with our own body encouraged and read by us as they ought to be? On how many of our tables, even amongst our intelligent and wealthy classes, are the numbers of the *British Quarterly* to be found? Let the venerated and beloved editor answer that question. Again, do we take sufficient interest in what are called our religious newspapers? Have the *Patriot* and *Nonconformist* met with the support they are entitled to? We do not always agree with the editor of the *Nonconformist*, but I must say for myself that I am more indebted to him for being a Nonconformist than to any other source. Dear friends, I have often been grieved to see the little interest taken by us as a body in our own literature. In many cases almost everything is to be found upon our tables excepting that which ought to interest us most; works which, if not directly antagonistic, are deeply impregnated with principles opposed to our views, are so often found upon our tables and in the hands of our children, to the utmost utter exclusion of our own literature, that it is not surprising that our children are found somewhat indifferent to our principles, and sometimes abandoning them altogether. In many cases we ourselves furnish the bane, and take no care to provide the antidote. Let us now look a little further; let us consider the state of our churches—is it altogether what we could desire? In many parts of the country we are strong; but in other places, even of our town populations, to say nothing of our village and rural districts, we are confessedly weak; nay, in some parts, my conviction is we are losing ground. How, then, is this downward tendency to be arrested, and new life and spiritual vitality infused? First, by the strong coming to the help of the weak, by the ministers of our large and influential churches devoting a small portion of their time in itinerating amongst our smaller town and village churches. This would cheer and encourage our brethren, who have many difficulties to contend with; and I am glad to know some of our ministers are ready to enter on this work. What, dear friends, is the common answer to inquiries as to the state of many of our churches? Is it not, "We are very comfortable, all is peace and harmony," while from year to year there are few or no conversions to God. Dear friends, there ought to be no peace while souls are not gathered in from the world, and brought into the fold of Christ. Churches may make mistakes in the choice of a minister, and ministers may err in their estimate of a people, but the moment it becomes evident that a mistake has been made, let steps be taken in all Christian kindness and affection to remedy the evil, and in such cases churches should be ready with a generous hand to meet the necessities of the case. I am free to confess I have no sympathy with the present condition of some, I might say many, of our churches. Pews not much more than half occupied, ministers complaining, and justly so, of want of sympathy and co-operation on the part of their people, and the people complaining of the want of adaptation to their necessities in their minister, and amidst all this our places languish and dissatisfaction prevails. In such cases I would say, with all kindness and affection, to minister and people, Let a change be made, not in an unkind spirit, but with loving hearts, wishing each other God-speed for the honour of our Master and the love of souls. The last point I shall refer to is evangelistic agency. I rejoice to think this subject has taken a firm hold on the minds of our people in many parts of the country, and I confess I do not see any

means which under God is so likely to fill and increase our churches, and consequently extend our principles, as the employment of a large number of well-trained evangelists—men of deep piety and earnest hearts—in connection with our churches and county associations. It is notorious that the ministers of our influential churches have so many calls upon them for work altogether apart from the claims of their own people, that it is impossible for them to do much in connection with those aggressive movements upon the masses of our people which must be done if we are to take our full share in the conversion of the world to God. I do not think we have yet sufficiently realised the importance of this work. The people are perishing at our very doors; and were it not for the missionary or the evangelist many of them would never hear of the love of Jesus in dying for them. Let us, then, gird ourselves for this work, and, under a deep sense of our obligations to Him who has done so much for us, let us afresh consecrate ourselves to His service. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. G. W. CONDER proposed the following resolution:—

That this meeting, while sincerely rejoicing in the large amount of blessing graciously vouchsafed by the Saviour and Lord of the Church to the labours of Christians of different denominations in this land, would recognise with peculiar gratitude and thanksgiving to Him the service rendered to the cause of Christian truth and freedom by the churches of the Congregational order; and would view with satisfaction the consistent testimony they have borne to evangelical principles and voluntary endeavour in their successful attempts to diffuse the knowledge of Jesus Christ and Him crucified amongst the increasing population of England and Wales.

He could say honestly, and with his whole heart, he rejoiced in all the good that was being done by whomsoever it might be effected. And he took it to be a very little thing to say after all. It was not only his duty to do this, but it was as much his duty to rejoice in his brother's success, though he differed from him in many things, as it was to keep his hands out of his pocket, and refrain from defaming his good name. The same thing which made them cherish their principles as they did, necessitated their rejoicing in the doing of good by everyone. They had been dubbed schismatics. It might be that they were. But why?

It is because we are bound in our conscience to hold ourselves aloof from certain old ecclesiastical bodies in this country—and more than one—because we believe our principles to be those that are the best handmaid of the truth. For that, and that alone, for the truth's sake, and for nothing else, do we Dissent. And therefore it is the very same reason that necessitates our rejoicing in the success of the works done by all those with whom we differ. I am ready to-morrow to preach for anybody who will open his pulpit to me, and I am also equally ready to open my own pulpit to any Christian minister who will come and preach there. (Hear, hear.) I do not see very well, therefore, how the term schismatic can be fixed on me. (Laughter.) If in going about doing the work of Jesus Christ he found somewhere a bar put up telling him that he cannot go past it, then he held that the sin of schism lay with the man who put up the bar.

What was the real unity of the Church of God?

It was a unity of living minds and souls. They could not crystallise, nor fuse nor drill these into unity, for the moment they attempted to cast them into the crucible of persecution all the living particles were put into antagonism. Put a band round it, and the moment they began to draw it tight they made the atoms start from each other with instinctive repulsion. They must permit it to be the native growth of mind to mind, heart to heart, and soul to soul. And he said that because the only law for the attainment of that unity was the law which they boasted as their main principle of organisation—freedom. He agreed with the chairman that they had never done their duty by themselves. People of other denominations had been very zealous in teaching their principles to their own children, but in this they had been especially negligent. Their principles had now had a full and fair trial. They had the history of centuries to test their value and worth.

They had not the prestige of being patronised by the State, but they had had the prestige which belonged to real, true spiritual work. They had not had large subsidies from the State, but they had received large supplies drawn from the free love of Christian hearts, which had enabled them not only to sustain all that they had originated, but to impose new burdens upon themselves without the smallest doubt that the same free hearts would furnish all they needed.

We have not had even the aid of an Act of Parliament to keep us within the bounds of controversy, nor a decree of Convocation to keep us up to the truth. (Laughter.) But we are almost disposed to say we think we have been better without them. (Laughter.) If we had had them, possibly, instead of this one assembly, gloriously representative as it is of the whole body, we might have had High Congregationalists and Broad Congregationalists—(laughter)—or we might have had an old Congregational body and no one knows how many new ones. (Renewed laughter.) We might have had a Congregational Union and a Free Congregational Union. We might have had Mr. Mellor denying the credibility of the Pentateuch. (Laughter.) We might have had our old and revered friend Dr. Campbell in a serge gown and a shaven crown. (Loud laughter.) We have been free, and therefore we are one. We have been free, and therefore we can to-day make the not vain boast which we are proud to make, in the hearing of all Christendom, that there is no other ecclesiastical body of our time, however constituted or organised, that can show a greater unity of doctrine and position than we can. (Loud applause.)

The Rev. H. W. PARKINSON, of Rochdale, in seconding the resolution contrasted their Union meetings with those of the Church Congress:—

It may be said we have not any power to legislate, just as we have not any desire to legislate. But at any rate we have as much power as that other ecclesiastical body. We are in a position that we could perhaps have had the power if we had the desire, while they have the desire and not the power. (Laughter.) We are in the position that our opinion is so intelligent and so free that it comes almost in its influence upon the minds of

others with the force of law; their position is that while they attempt to utter opinions which shall have the force of law, they cease to have the power even of opinion. And it is melancholy to see so many good men who largely desire the promotion of the best interests of the kingdom of our Lord so tied and bound and fettered that they are very much like an elephant in toils struggling to get free, and yet unable to shake off any of the bonds by which they are bound. It may be said on these occasions there is a little too much talk and profession about denominational and distinctive principle, but it seems to me that profession is only repugnant to common sense or nice feeling when it is a false profession; not when there is anything unassuming about it. If our life is hid with Christ in God, we need not be afraid of making the loudest profession of our principles and services; we are bound to profess, because as you know, our ancestry has been denied; but if our brethren of the Anglican Church may go back centuries in their ancestral claims, we may go a little further. Where was your Church before the Reformation? demands the Catholic or the Protestant. And I believe the proper answer is, Where was your face before it was washed? (Laughter.) But I will just intimate to these contending parties that the original clean face belongs to us. (Renewed laughter.)

For the profession of their principles they needed a more earnest, godly, spiritual life in their churches. They must not so over-glorify their principles as to think that they could do everything for them.

We have to utter a very solemn protest in this age, a protest more solemn than has fallen upon two or three generations back. I believe I am not much of an alarmist, and I remember the days when I smiled at the danger of any return of Popery to this country. But there are signs of danger which I do not dread from Popery properly so called, but which I do from Popery called so properly. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) I find myself labouring in the midst of a district where, I regret to say, out of very many churches—churches that are constantly multiplying, and filled with increasing congregations, and ministered to by clergymen who are wonderfully in earnest, there is not yet any proclamation of salvation by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ: where the whole tendency is to teach the people to rest on ceremonials and the ordinances as ministered by the Church. We are in a time of conflict which is waxing hotter; while on the one side there is a tendency towards reason without faith, on the other we see a strong tendency towards faith without reason; and we have to keep this middle ground to make our protest against faith and reason. And while we have scepticism on the one hand, getting too common nowadays among our young people—doubts about the Pentateuch getting into our senior Bible-classes and amongst our Sunday-school teachers—while we have this danger on the one side to watch against, we have a still greater danger in the antagonisms which are springing up on all sides, like a great tide.

Unless they had God's help to keep them alive their churches might become very cold and dead. It must be their duty to stand firm in the power of the Lord, and if they were faithful they would come into that light of the morning where they should see all the sons of God summering upon the hills in the presence of their Lord. (Loud applause.)

The Rev. Dr. VAUGHAN moved the following resolution:—

That the abounding of error, irreligion, and immorality still call for renewed efforts to evangelise the masses of the people; and this meeting earnestly hopes that the churches of our faith and order will continue by wise organisations and personal effort to do all in their power to bring the world into subjection to the rule of Christ; and that they will always stand prepared by increasing liberality, and a readiness to employ such improved modes of action as may be practicable, in their attempts to promote the glory of God and the well-being of mankind.

Having at some length contrasted and illustrated the past condition of the denomination with the present, the speaker said he thought that then Congregationalists had a mission to take hold of a large portion of the public mind. Now, they had to lay hold of the thousands of people who were dissatisfied with the semi-infidelity and semi-Popery they found in the Church of England.

Not only have we to oppose learning to learning, and intellect to intellect, and to be skilful in detecting the faults of the Church of England—we have to be faithful and wise in detecting our own faults. What is wanting on our parts almost before anything, is that we should be careful to present to minds that do not care about particular churches, but do care about having the truth and living to Christ; that we should be careful to present to them what they can contemplate as likely to be a congenial and spiritual hour. Character is capital. It is not only so with individuals in ordinary transactions of life; it is with ministers of churches and with churches themselves. I have known churches that have sunk into such disagreeable odour in their neighbourhoods that an angel as a preacher could never rouse them into prosperity. And on the other hand, no matter what a people may be, if the minister be not a man taking firm hold on the esteem and confidence of the regions in which he is placed,—if we are to make way, our churches must not be remarkable for disquiet and disturbance, nor our ministers open to the censure of those around them. It is a keen-sighted age. (Hear.) And then we must remember that we English are a proud people. There is a good deal of the old Roman pride in some, and a great deal of small conventional pride in others. Only make English people understand that to become connected with Nonconformity, you cease to be respectable—to be vulgar—and you will find they will not become connected with it. ("Hear," and laughter.) The powers that assail us now make their appeal to the pride and the prejudices of the English mind. Formerly we had to deal with assailants who despised us because they thought us weak; now we have to deal with men who hate us because they know we are strong. (Hear, hear.) But our endeavour must be to counteract these assaults, and to be most jealous with regard to the things that concern our public reputation as ministers and churches.

They had prospered; their places of worship and congregations had multiplied not only positively but relatively to the population; they came out into the open day; they were getting into a higher social

position; they had a better place in the country. And beyond a doubt more was doing now than formerly for the advancement of Christ's cause. Our Lord employed the old Hebrew synagogues—voluntary, self-sustained churches like their own—organisations that could choose and dismiss their own officers—is the great centres through which to get at the mind of the nation.

His manner was to go into these synagogues, these congregational churches, and in them He gave those memorable lessons on discipline—"If thy brother offend thee, go and tell him of his fault alone; if he will not hear thee then, tell it to another; and if he will not hear thee then, tell it to the church—the congregation." (Hear, hear.) And are we to be told by coxcombs that we lose our refinement and manhood when we become Congregational Nonconformists? (Hear.) Did not Jesus Christ endorse it by identifying Himself as He did with it in the Hebrew synagogue? Be not ashamed of it. (Cheers.) Let us give all charity to those who do not see as we do; but let us never deny that there is a dignity and beauty in our principles, whatever the world about us may say, that makes them very precious in our sight. (Cheers.) We are not prepared to say an unfriendly thing to any good people, wherever they are found. When Mr. Conder was speaking of the real unity of the Church, I thought, Well, now, we have something of within these walls. Here we are—more than 400 delegates, and the Congregationalists of Hull could not accommodate us all; but our good friends in the Church of England are helping, our good friends the Methodists are helping—what is this but the real unity of the Church, the real brotherhood that is among us? I am not here to say anything against any man's form or creed, but simply to plead for Christ's truth, and for all that may contribute to diffuse His religion over the conscience and heart of man. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. HUTCHINSON, delegate from the Scottish Congregational Union, in seconding the motion, said he could understand a person connected with an Established Church looking with comparative indifference on the masses of people living without God, and leaving the matter to be cared for by the State; but it was clearly inconsistent for a member of a Congregational church to neglect or refuse to do his part. The fact of his being a member of a Congregational church proved that he took the obligation upon himself. The vitality and the health of the church required labour. There was special force, therefore, in such a resolution as the one he seconded being submitted to a meeting of Congregationalists. No church would thrive which expended its strength solely on its own individual development. If there were more of the Spirit which dwelt in Him who wept over the doomed city, there would be more activity in doing His work. He was afraid that in Scotland the old evangelical missionary character of the churches was losing ground, and that they were becoming too careful about their respectability, too anxious to be an imposing denomination, speaking too much of their mission to the middle classes; as if the poor had no souls to be saved. He hoped that Congregationalists would never forget that their mission was nothing less than a mission to all about them. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. S. PEARSON moved:—

That, deeply conscious of the absolute necessity of renewal baptism of the Holy Ghost to maintain the spiritual life of our churches, to call forth and direct their sanctified energies, and to extend the triumphs of Christianity amongst the rapidly increasing population of our land, this meeting would solemnly urge on all the pastors and members of Independent congregations the duty of cultivating the spirit of persevering, believing prayer for the outpouring of the promised gift of the Spirit, with a view to secure a genuine and extensive revival of pure and undefiled religion.

He urged them one and all to carry their Congregational principles into practice, depending upon the promised assistance of the Spirit of God. (Cheers.)

The Rev. W. PULSFORD, of Glasgow, seconded the motion, and also strongly urged upon his hearers to cultivate a closer communion with the Holy Spirit.

JOHN LUMSDEN, Esq. (Mayor of Hull), proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, highly eulogising Mr. Sidebottom as one whose name was not only in all the churches of his own denomination, but, he might say, in every church, as a truly good man and a benefactor to mankind. (Cheers.) He (Mr. Lumsden) approved of Congregationalism; it was a step in the right direction. It was a little in accordance with his own views; and he hoped it was not to end where it was, but that it would go on until the Independents became a little more Presbyterian than they were, although he was quite aware Presbyterianism was not so well suited at the present time to the genius of Englishmen; but, if taken up by their friends as it had been, he was sure they would make it exceedingly palatable.

JOHN CROSSLEY, Esq., of Halifax, who was received with loud and continued cheering, seconded the resolution, expressing the satisfaction with which he had listened to the addresses that had been delivered, including that of their respected chairman.

The CHAIRMAN returned thanks in a few appropriate words, and the meeting was closed with singing and prayer.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19.

The assembly resumed its sittings on Wednesday, the Rev. H. Allon in the chair. The proceedings commenced as usual with a devotional service.

PASTORS' RETIRING FUND.

The Rev. Dr. FERGUSON made a brief statement in reference to the above fund.

The amount raised and invested in annuities was 29,000*l*. The total sum raised was 35,000*l*, exclusive of between 3,000*l* and 4,000*l* in the shape of deferred legacies. There had been disbursed in the form of annuities 3,000*l*, to some 46 annuitants, in exhibitions of from 20*l* to 50*l* each. Out of these 46 annuitants eleven had died, reducing the number to 35. The committee had recently elected four more out of fifteen applications, but, owing to a vote of 500*l* from the Con-

gregational Union, the committee would have the pleasure of increasing the number of annuitants to 42. The income, however, was totally inadequate to meet the claims upon it. He proposed to raise the fund to 100,000l. This could easily be done, if each of the 1,500 churches would make a small contribution—5l. each for the next ten years. This, with the subscriptions, donations, and legacies which would come in during that time, would yield about 4,000l. a-year in the shape of interest. The probable claims upon the fund would be about 6 per cent. of the ministry, or between 90 and 100 ministers. If, therefore, an average annuity of 40l. each were to be given to each pastor qualified from active work, the whole amount of 4,000l. would be expended. The cost of raising the fund up to the present time had been only one per cent. (Cheers.) His heart was in the work, and in consequence of the generous interposition of a few friends, he hoped to be able to give his whole time and energy to the movement for five years without taking a single farthing from the fund. (Cheers.) He trusted that the pastors and churches would gather round him and help in the good work. The 100,000l. ought to be completed in ten years.

The Rev. Dr. BROWN moved the following resolution:—

That this assembly has heard with great satisfaction the account now given of the successful working, prospects, and aims of the Pastors' Retiring Fund, and, believing it to be an institution of great practical value, indispensable to the welfare both of churches and ministers, earnestly commends it to the increasing liberality of the denomination, so that its managers may be enabled to grant annuities to all retiring pastors who are eligible.

He had always felt that that Fund was a matter of great moment for the comfort of those pastors who, after having built up their churches for many years, had come to that time of life when by their continued ministrations they ran the risk of pulling them down again. (Hear, hear.) There were many pastors who would gladly have retired in old age if they had had any provision to fall back upon. This society met that difficulty.

The Rev. J. C. GALLAWAY could not forbear throwing out the hint that, in addition to the separate annuities, it would be very desirable to have a residence for retired pastors.

Dr. FERGUSON, in further explanation, said that the deed allowed the committee to grant annuities as high as 150l. They were not, therefore, limited to smaller amounts. Half of the congregational collections and annual subscriptions were regularly invested in annuities.

After a few words from Mr. KEMP WELCH, the treasurer of the society, the resolution was agreed to.

DEPUTATION FROM THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.

The Rev. Dr. SMITH introduced the Rev. Dr. King, the Rev. Dr. Edmond, the Rev. R. M. Scott, and Samuel Stitt, Esq., members of the United Presbyterian Synod of England. The assembly rose and received these brethren with every mark of cordial welcome.

The CHAIRMAN said he had very great pleasure in welcoming the deputation in the name of the Congregational Union. He welcomed them first as ministers and servants of Jesus Christ trying with them to do the work of the Master. He welcomed them next as representatives of churches very nearly allied to the Congregational churches of Britain, and especially as having fought the battle of religious liberty together. Personally he rejoiced to meet them. Dr. King and Dr. Edmond laboured in London, and the latter was a very neighbour. He rejoiced therefore to meet him far from home under such gratifying circumstances; and he felt it to be a great honour to be permitted to receive those honoured brethren as Chairman of the Union.

The members of the deputation then severally addressed the meeting.

The Rev. R. SCOTT, the Clerk of the Synod, stated that he had great pleasure in conveying to the Union the fraternal regards of the denomination with which he was connected. All the deputation was here but one, namely, Dr. Macfarlane, of Clapham Church, London, who was prevented attending through illness. The United Presbyterian Church has very much sympathy and very strong affinities towards the Congregational Union, and he believed there was very little difference in their respective principles.—The Rev. Dr. KING, Moderator of the General Synod of the United Presbyterian Church, then addressed the meeting. He said they felt in relation to the Congregational Union as that body had shown that it felt in relation to the Presbyterian Synod. There were special grounds therefore for an interchange of sympathy and courtesies, and the impression of the fact was deep and wide in their connexion. He had had the frequent pleasure of interchange and companionship with several Independents, and his whole life had been one of brotherhood with members of that community. (Hear, hear.) He believed that there were advantages as well as disadvantages in their denominational differences, for they had often thereby two churches instead of one. In conclusion, he urged the Congregational Union to be as aggressive as possible; and if they (the Presbyterians) could not go first, they would be content to follow after. (Hear, hear.) The quicker the Congregationalists ran, the faster would the Presbyterians follow. (Laughter and applause.)—Dr. EDMOND, another of the deputation, was then called upon by the chairman, and in a somewhat humorous speech reviewed the various points of resemblance or difference between the Synod of United Presbyterians and the Congregational Union.—A lay representative of the Synod, Mr. SAMUEL STITT, of Liverpool, was then introduced and addressed the meeting. Their body was an increasing one. They had 578 congregations, 578 elders, 4,256 lay elders, 151 students, and a membership of 170,000 persons. Last year the income was 216,000l., of which sum

85,000l. had been paid in stipends to ministers, and 51,000l. to missions. Their income last year exceeded by 40,000l. that of the previous year, and the increase in stipends was 14,000l.

Professor FALDING, tutor of Rotherham College, then moved:—

That the pastors and delegates of the Congregational Churches constituting this assembly, hereby cordially welcome to their fellowship the honoured and beloved brethren who have now addressed them as representatives of the United Presbyterian Synod of England. They rejoice in the happy amount of agreement which marks the two denominations in respect of doctrinal truth, the independence of the Church of Christ of all worldly control, and its support by the voluntary efforts of its members; and further, they trust that the endeavour of the Synod to establish Presbyterian teaching and worship in the great centres of the population in England, will, under the Divine blessing, be extensively prospered.

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Dr. VAUGHAN, who said he thought they were getting a little vain of their charity; they were, in fact, just carrying out a very common virtue among Christian men. There was more individual action ceded by the Presbyterianism of this day to the laity than they might have been led to suppose, and there was a better place assigned to organised action among Congregationalists than their Presbyterian brethren had been wont to understand. They of the Congregational Union had been obliged to consider seriously the problem how best to realise the effectiveness that was only to be gained by united action consistently with the most sacred regard to individual freedom. They had in all their churches something of Episcopacy—something of Presbyterianism.

In modern Congregationalism the difference is this—we do not institutionalise these things. We have men that are naturally bishops. (Laughter.) We have men naturally formed to think for others, to feel for others, to act for others, and, having a little more power to do good for others, they get the place they have willingly ceded to them. They are God's episcopacy, and we are thankful to God for them—(Hear, hear)—and so with Presbyterianism. We have that element, too, but we do not institutionalise it. And here, again, we have our Union, but we do not institutionalise it. We have no legislative authority. We try to get the benefit of these things in a moral form, and it would be a bad thing for Congregationalism if we were not fully alive to the importance of this truth. Whether we and the United Presbyterians shall be one, I do not know. I do not see the way to it just at present; but, though I am a strong Congregationalist, I am just as strong for realising all these collateral forms of united action, resting not upon the instituted principle of Congregationalism, but upon human nature and common sense, which are older than Congregationalism, and must have been meant to work harmoniously with it. (Hear, hear.)

He thought the time was coming when there would be a need for all good men to be banded together for the defence of God's truth.

I have a strong impression that, whether I live to see it or not, the great question of Church and State will give place to another question—God's truth or the Devil's lie for the world. That will be the great rallying-point. That we shall feel to be the thing at stake—whether God's truth shall be upheld, His authority obeyed, His religion diffused, or whether something antagonistic to it all shall be the ruling power in the world. If that time is to come—and it seems to be coming—there is not a nation on God's earth that will do battle in that cause better than the Scottish nation. (Hear, hear.) She is in the van there already. Little nation as she is compared with some others, God Almighty has shown what he can do by the small even against the great; and I can easily believe that if the time shall come in which we may have to contend for God's truth, as we had to contend more than two centuries ago for our national liberty, we, the descendants of the old Ironsiders—the descendants of the Old Covenanters—casting off the narrowness and bigotry of the past, but retaining all its sanctified manhood, may, with God's blessing, constitute a phalanx strong enough to face any opposing force. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. G. MIALLE expressed his very deep and fervent gratification in being called upon to support the resolution. The bonds that had united Presbyterians and Congregationalists in the past had been uncommonly strong, and it would be strange if, in the present or in the future, their affinity to each other should be in the least degree weakened.

SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., looked with the greatest satisfaction at the possibility of perhaps some future and prospective connection with their honoured Presbyterian brethren. He rejoiced in the earnest aggressive effort that the United Presbyterians were making in London and other large towns. In the prospect of the great work before them, all his earnest hope was that the only rivalry between them would be fidelity to the Master they professed to serve and glad co-operation in the labours in which He called them to engage. (Cheers.)

After a few words from the CHAIRMAN, the resolution was carried unanimously.

DELEGATES FROM SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

Dr. SMITH introduced the Rev. John Hutchinson as a delegate from the Congregational Union of Scotland, and the Rev. Alexander King from the Congregational Union of Ireland. Both these gentlemen were heartily welcomed, and delivered brief fraternal addresses.

MISSIONS TO THE JEWS.

Dr. GINSBURG, who is devoting himself to the cause of Jewish missions, and who has acquired lasting honour as a contributor to modern Biblical literature, was introduced to the assembly by Dr. Smith, and delivered an animated address, which was listened to with much interest. The Rev. JOHN GILL moved, and the Rev. J. SIBREE, of Hull, seconded, the following resolution, which was carried unanimously:—

That this assembly places on record an expression of the deep obligation of the Christian church to seek the conversion of the Jewish people to the faith of Christ, and recognises in the

British and Foreign Society for Promoting Christianity among the Jews an instrumentality through which Congregational and other free churches may act with advantage in seeking this important end.

EVANGELISATION IN WALES.

The session was prolonged till nearly three o'clock, in order to hear and discuss a deeply-interesting paper on the above subject by the Rev. JOHN DAVIES.

The Rev. D. THOMAS, B.A. (chairman-elect of the Union), moved the following resolution:—

That the thanks of the assembly be presented to the Rev. J. Davies for his instructive paper on the evangelisation of Wales, which he is requested to place at the disposal of the committee for publication.

The meeting was greatly indebted to the paper read by Mr. Davies for the example which it gave of the efficiency of the voluntary system. An opinion prevailed that it was good enough for the middle classes, but that it would not do for the lower classes. But that paper also gave proof of the adaptation of Congregationalism to the wants of the very lowest. It was now stronger than the Methodist body there, and was daily extending its operations. One great cause of the success of Congregationalism in Wales was the fervour of feeling and earnestness of spirit which characterised the preaching of the ministers, and which was nowhere else to be met with. They were also unselfish and generous to an excess, and it was no uncommon thing for the pastor of a church to build another in his own immediate district; indeed, Mr. Davies had already built three or four.

The Rev. Dr. REES, of Swansea, briefly seconded the motion.

Mr. MORLEY wished to add one word in testimony of the claims of the English people in Wales. The state of Wales presented a thousand times greater claim to earnest sympathy than the heathen at the antipodes. The Welsh people had not at present the financial powers to deal with the necessity, and he hoped, therefore, that the appeal which would be shortly issued would meet with a liberal response.

Dr. VAUGHAN also added a word of warm recommendation, and the resolution was then unanimously adopted.

The assembly adjourned.

THE DINNER.

The dinner, as before, was in the Music-hall; James Irwin, Esq., in the chair. At the close of the repast, speeches were delivered by Messrs. Morley, Crossley, and Leeman, of York.

MEETING ON CONGREGATIONAL MISSIONS.

In the evening a public meeting on behalf of the Congregational Missions was held in Hope-street Chapel, under the presidency of Samuel Morley, Esq., of London. The chapel was crowded in every part. The proceedings commenced in the usual manner.

The CHAIRMAN said he had come to that meeting that night with a very deep impression of the solemnity of the subject that was to engage their attention. His very earnest desire was that every person present would receive the impression that would send him or her home with deeper convictions as to the work which had yet to be done with respect to the objects that were to be impressed upon their attention. He would that they were mindful, as churches, to the responsibilities which attached to them, and he fervently prayed that the result of their meeting that night might be to send ministers and delegates to their homes with deeper impressions as to what was involved in the positions they were filling in the various churches. He was of opinion, as to home missionary societies (with which they were identified, and upon whose success and soundness foreign missionary societies depended greatly), that their work had as yet just begun—that they were only yet on the very threshold of that work, and had got to discover the means by which the church (in using that term he referred to all evangelical bodies) might perform its mission in bringing all the world to the rule of Christ. He was afraid they were hardly keeping pace with the increased population of the country. It therefore behoved them, in their church relationship, to go home and ponder well over the matter, with a view to stir up the thoughtful earnestness of their churches, and lead them to devise some means to get thousands of persons converted. His conviction was that if the church had been faithful to her mission—if, during the past year, every member had been working up to his principles—they would not that day know of a child uninstructed, nor of an adult that was not receiving constant and earnest visitation. They had to deal with millions of Englishmen who were unhappily rarely to be found within the walls of a church or chapel. In Hull, in 1851, there was a population of 84,690 inhabitants. Of that number, after all hindrances and obstacles had been considered, it had been estimated that 50,000 persons ought to have attended the 51 places of worship in the town, whereas only 36,000 persons had done so. This left a remainder of 14,000. 20,000 people attended morning service, 2,000 the afternoon, and 18,000 the evening. It behoved them to be casting about when they found that 14,000 persons, without any obvious cause, were neglecting the house of God, and seeing what could be done to help forward that good time they so much desired. Out of 1,789,000 people residing in the East Riding, it had been estimated that 1,000,000 should attend public worship, whereas only 600,000 did so. How was this to be improved? By every Christian becoming a missionary. (Hear, hear.) Church members had been too apathetic and easy about this matter. Every Christian should earnestly ask the question, "Lord, what wouldst Thou have me to do?" The fact was beyond all controversy, that thousands of all classes totally disregarded the house of God. If they would not visit

the house of God they must go to them. All these visitations, however, could not be made without the agency of church-members, who, if they couched their invitations to their visitants in proper terms, would doubtless be successful to a great extent. On every ground there was necessity to be up and doing. (Applause.)

The Rev. JAMES PARSONS, of York, next addressed the meeting on the claims of their missions upon their churches. He remarked that there were obstacles in the way of the missionary enterprise, which could only be overcome by consistency, unity, courage, activity, and prayer. How much of sordid error, how much speculative error, how much of flagrant crime, and how much of vice by which that crime was engendered—licentiousness, and that great evil drink, that filled alike hospitals, asylums, and prisons—existed amongst the classes whom they sought to make converts! The efforts of their own denomination in common with others appeared to have increased both in extent and energy. Witness what is attempted by our schools, by our Christian instruction societies, by our different society missions, and by other means, more personal and organised, which seek to go down to the depths of society and reclaim sinners. They had in connection with their denomination 107 mission stations, and supported 115 agents in thirty-eight counties through the county associations. The income last year was 6,000*l.*, being 1,500*l.* more than when the present officers were elected, subsequent to whose appointments a considerable debt, which had pressed heavily upon them, had been paid. During the last three years they had had sixty-three lay evangelists. Out of 2,000 large churches, only 300 made collections on behalf of the mission fund. This was a fact of which they ought to be ashamed. The Rev. Alex. King, of Dublin, followed upon the same subject.

The Rev. A. M. HENDERSON made an appeal on behalf of the Colonial Mission, which, he remarked, had not been found amongst the least successful societies. It had done a work far larger than any other body had accomplished in the same period. The society sustained 213 churches during the twenty-eight years of its existence.

The Rev. JOHN SHEDLOCK, M.A., of London, gave an interesting account of the progress the missionary enterprise was making on the continent, and expatiated on the enlarged liberty and facilities accorded to the work in that part of Europe. He knew of no field so promising as the continent of Europe. In Italy they had the liberty of preaching, teaching, printing, and holding public meetings, which latter reminded him of the public meetings in England. In Naples, which three years ago contained 14,800 monks, they had now places of worship, schools for the young, and men met to debate great questions. Christianity since 1818, when the Rev. Mark Wilks visited France and commenced casting forth good seed, in that country had grown more in a love of the Gospel, and now it had twenty-nine independent churches, each of which had to provide for its own existence. One condition upon which a church could claim help in that country was that it should evangelise its own neighbourhood. In Lyons the Independents were strong in numbers.

The Rev. J. KENNEDY, M.A., of Stepney, moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting recognises the claims of Congregational missions as now presented by the various speakers, and while grateful for the liberal support that these missions receive, regrets that they do not obtain all the pecuniary help their extended operations require, and would commend them afresh to the prayers and contributions of the Independent churches of this country, and especially to that aid which may be effectually rendered by the general adoption of annual collections on the last Sunday in October.

The resolution was seconded by the Rev. J. B. PATON. Alderman LEEMAN, of York, supported the resolution. The resolution was carried, and the proceedings were brought to a conclusion.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20.

On Thursday morning the assembly resumed its sitting in Fish-street Chapel, under the presidency of the Rev. H. Allon.

SPIRITUAL LIFE IN THE CHURCHES.

The Rev. S. HEBDITCH, of Bristol, read a paper on this subject.

The two chief considerations were (he said), what was the spiritual condition of their churches? and how could it be improved? He had written with fear and trembling. They had no statistics, no reports, no head quarters from which full information might be obtained; but they had their impressions, and if on comparison these were found to be similar, they could only come to a common conclusion. It was to be desired that a sober judgment should be brought to bear. The picture to be photographed should correspond with the reality in lights as well as in shades. Did not every one of them feel dissatisfied with his own work? There were in the churches humble, high-principled, devout, and truthful men. These were pillars and patterns. The average stature was lower. The presence of the excellent ones among them warranted the inference that the general conduct of the church in which they appeared was not satisfactory; for if it were, they would not be so strikingly exceptional. There must necessarily be a certain relation between outward circumstances and the inner life of God's people. False doctrine marked one age, deficient morals another, inaction another; but neither of these were special faults of their times. Scientific knowledge had given them unwonted power over nature. Stephenson's piston and the electric wire were nearly as effective as Moses's rod. The present was a utilitarian age, and a valiant age—not always for the truth, but for success. (Boldness of speculation had challenged the Bible, and had returned the teaching that the stern old Book had not the rights over them that it was thought to have. If that was the spirit of the age, it was difficult to estimate its effect upon them. There were, however, some good things among them. Christian enterprise had widened with the widening

of the nation's ideas. Abuses were more freely denounced. Church organisation, correspondence, negotiation and finance had learned to be business-like. Increased intelligence in the pew had found increased intelligence in the pulpit. The vigorous spirit of the times had entered the temple, and had driven out what was not to her mind there. To this extent the Church had been borne along on the wings of modern progress. It was pressed on every side, and had received some damage from the present spirit of the times. David the exile was higher than David the King; and man's estimate of himself was exaggerated and unsatisfactory. The more he thought of himself the less was Christ to him. They could never put power into the hands of a man without endangering his humility. Science like a mother sometimes spoiled her own child. She laid royal treasure at his feet, and what wonder if he thought himself a king? From the dark adventurers some called spiritualists to the far-seeing philosophers, there was a mad, a venturesome *nil desperandum* spirit which undertook to account for everything, and admitted only in the last extremity the direct hand of God. It taunted the supernatural and called it a weakness. From this spirit was spreading nearly all the objections to the Bible, and there was an earnest endeavour now being made to reduce it to a common level; to deny all the inspiration of all the writers, not excepting the Lord Jesus Himself. The peril of the Christian was great. Had they the confidence in prayer, and especially in prayer about worldly things, that they used to have? The sparrows and the lilies had not the voice they had for Jesus. The Church of their own time wanted reverence. There was less reverence for ministers among men than formerly; less reverence for the Sabbath among days; for the sanctuary among buildings; worship among acts; religion among topics; and God among beings. Who now stood in awe like Esau? Who fainted like Daniel? Who felt as one dead like John? Who were appalled by the words sin and judgment? Who quaked at God's word and trembled at His judgments? If God should put them in fear, the feeling would be new. Though they could hardly believe they were less sinful than past generations, they would not pretend to say that the inner life of God's people ought to exhibit the same phases in all times. No one age was the model for another. The present was a less traditional age than the former. The very experiences of Christians must be different. Now they felt less, and hid their feelings more than was once the case. They required more or less complete identification of their will to God; and, he who thus lived, mounted, and never descended from the altar of God. The great defect of the age was, that their Christian will was somewhat relaxed. It had not built up itself like a breakwater against the waves. It did not always give such a bold and imperial bearing in the presence of compromise which the Christian should show. The watershed of the mind, which, if placed at a due elevation, would give all their powers a direct, rapid, and continuous flow to the end, had been depressed, and been less uniform and decided. He was not anxious to prove that this view of the churches was correct, but there were symptoms which seemed to supply confirmation. Was there not a general complaint that their most cultivated men never led the devotions of their brethren at all; and one third or even one fourth only of the members attended the religious services? How to make their churches fellowships, was a question which occurred to more than one of them, and the decline of the class-meeting had been acknowledged and bewailed by many. The essayist then spoke of the neglected education of the children, and the worldly conduct of business men, who thought more of finance than of faith. Another sign of unhealthiness was the laborious working of their organisations, to keep the stream of contributions at its present level. The miserable unwillingness of the great mass of the people to give was a mournful fact on the dark side. The Wesleyans, the Baptists, and others, had the same complaint to make. He then urged that they were overdoing the mere intellectual training of their young people, rather than in Biblical knowledge. On these grounds it might be said that the spiritual condition of their churches was not satisfactory. He could hardly bring himself to ask one or two questions; but he must ask whether they, the pastors and teachers, were in any degree responsible for their present state, not as producers, but as non-preventers of it? Had the backward movement encountered due resistance? Had they reproached the social extravagance of the rich and rising families? Had they been practical enough in their teaching? And were they sure that the spirit of the times, which had so weakened the conviction, had had no effect on themselves? The next question was how to regain what they had lost; and to secure that advanced position to which God had called them. He believed he himself had found the answer to the question, "How to revive our church?" to be in the answer to another, "How to revive myself?" The one thing to be done was to bring all to Christ, to make them more conscious of a communion with the Saviour. He did not doubt their ability to do it; he only doubted whether they would have the resolution to comply with the necessity. Let every one say to himself, "If a superior life is to characterise itself in my church, it must characterise itself in me."

Amongst the remedial suggestions made were the following: A conference of the praying members of churches in their respective localities as to the means of increasing the interest in prayer-meetings; greater solemnity in the act of receiving members; occasional conversation in the church-meetings, with permission under certain restrictions to ask questions on the sermon; the maintenance of discipline without undue restrictions in the admission of members; increased communion between pastors and churches, and, above all, the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

At the close of this paper, the Rev. E. Jukes implored the Divine blessing.

The Rev. J. PRIDIE, of Halifax, moved—

That the thanks of this assembly be hereby presented to the Rev. S. Hebditch for his valuable paper on the state of our churches, and that it be recommended for deep consideration of the various subjects it suggests.

He had listened with the deepest interest to the sentiments of his beloved brother, and he anticipated the best results from the discussion. Their great business was to see that the Gospel of Christ was faithfully preached—preached with all the eloquence

that man could command, and all the superior erudition of the present day. They need not fear for Congregationalism. For himself, he was more a Congregationalist than ever, notwithstanding all that had been lately said about Presbyterianism. (Hear, hear.)

H. O. WILLS, Esq., of Bristol, seconded the motion. He thanked his beloved friend for preparing so valuable and impressive a paper. The subject was one that of all others called for the thoughtful interest of the church. When they considered that nine out of every ten of the human race were not bound to heaven, it was truly melancholy to see the apparent indifference which characterised many members of the churches. As a Christian community, they had not yet arrived at the full realisation of the principle contained in that remarkable passage—"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

The Rev. D. DAVIES, of Manchester, in supporting the resolution, said he had no sympathy with mere alarmists, but he felt that the suggestions contained in the paper were of the deepest importance.

The resolution having been carried, the Rev. Mr. GUNN (Warminster) moved—

That the address of Mr. Hebditch be printed, and circulated as a message from the Union to the churches.

He could not feel satisfied with the address being simply put into the Year-book. The Union met to be a power of good to the churches, and it was a matter of importance that the views introduced there should be widely diffused. The Rev. W. H. PARKINSON seconded the resolution. The Rev. D. LOXTON (Sheffield) advocated special prayer for the revival of religion, but denounced revival meetings, which, he contended, only got up a species of spurious excitement. Dr. VAUGHAN submitted that if the resolution were carried, it would be a committal of the entire Union to the sentiments contained in the address; and suggested the introduction of a saving clause. The Rev. R. BRINDLEY considered the address a most devout, intelligent, and comprehensive one; and would recommend the ministers to introduce the subject to their respective churches.

There was some further discussion on the topics suggested by the paper. Dr. FRASER drew attention to the evils connected with the frequent changes of pastors, and their insufficient remuneration, as injuriously affecting the spiritual life of the churches, and calling for a remedy. The Rev. J. H. WILSON alluded to the investigations which had been set on foot into the moral and spiritual condition of their people through the instrumentality of the county associations. There was an amount of indifference and formality and spiritual deadness among their churches which went to establish satisfactorily what Mr. Hebditch had set forth. At the same time there were signs that the church was in many quarters awakening to a sense of its responsibility. The Kent Association four years ago raised 80*l.* per annum for their missions; but they now raised nearly 600*l.* He advocated perseverance in prayer-meetings, special services, and the establishment of missions in large towns. Mr. E. BAINES, M.P., urged upon the ministers to cultivate simplicity of style. It was far more indicative of a cultured mind than a cumbersome and learned phraseology, and would produce a much better influence upon all classes of hearers.

Mr. S. MORLEY read a letter from Mr. Joshua Wilson, in which the writer said:—

I fear it must be assumed as an unquestionable fact (speaking generally), that spiritual religion is in a depressed state. . . . We have during the last few years erected many handsome church houses; in many of our places of worship we have introduced organs and made improvements in the service of song; but all this is external and adventitious. . . . Are our churches members generally exhibiting to the world the fruits of faith by abounding in works of righteousness and deeds of beneficence, thus proving themselves to be indeed epistles of Christ, known and read of all men. Is the Lord adding, not daily, but even monthly, saved persons to our communities? I am very apprehensive that one reason, perhaps the chief, for the infrequency of conversions in most of our congregations is, that the great cardinal doctrines of our most holy faith are not presented in the discourses of our ministers with sufficient frequency and fullness, and especially that the great central truth, the vicarious propitiatory sacrifice of the Son of God, is not preached continually in so clear and explicit and direct a manner as it was by the Apostles. It becomes us who belong to the laity to be jealous over our ministers with a godly jealousy, and I will not conceal from you my apprehension that our young and rising ministers have, with not a few exceptions, degenerated from that which constituted the strength and glory of our pulpits in the generation that is passing away.

He (Mr. Morley) thought they had not enough earnest expounding of the Scriptures, and too much of critical investigation. He spoke of the evil of sending young and inexperienced preachers to fill the pulpits in large towns, as they lacked confidence in setting forth the Gospel. The Rev. B. DALE did not think it was deficiency of preaching that was the cause of the deadness of the present time. He thought they should adopt the method of gathering regularly some twenty members of the Church together; and talk with them individually about their position with regard to the church. The discussion was continued by the Revs. S. Pearsall, J. Macfadyen (who defended the young ministers from the charge of deficient evangelism), Dr. Vaughan, J. Hutchinson, Dr. Smith, and W. Pulsford.

Ultimately it was agreed that the paper should be remitted to the committee, with instructions for

them to print it in the way they might deem most desirable.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The Rev. JOSEPH THOMSON, of Manchester, moved—

That this assembly cannot close its session in Hull without tendering its sincere and cordial thanks to the beloved pastors, officers, and members of the Congregational churches in the town and neighbourhood, and to the friends of the other Christian communities around them, for their kind and considerate attendance to the comforts of the pastors and delegates sojourning in their midst; and it would especially express its deepest sympathy with the Rev. A. Redford under his personal and relative afflictions, and offer a fervent prayer that he may be speedily restored to health, and thus enabled to resume his labours with increased pleasure and success.

This was seconded by the Rev. Robert Ashton.

The CHAIRMAN spoke of the completeness of the arrangements which had been made for the reception of the Union; and, being a Hull man, he did not know whether to be thankful to the Hull people or proud of them.

The resolution having been unanimously adopted,

The Rev. E. JUKES (Fish-street) responded. He complained of the conduct of the railway companies, who had refused to convey the delegates and ministers at reduced fares, although such accommodation had been offered to the members who had attended the recent Church Congress at Bristol. This was a matter, he thought, which ought to be ventilated.

A vote of thanks having been accorded to the President,

The Rev. H. ALLON responded.

The sitting then closed with the benediction.

THE DINNER

Was held, as usual, in the Public Rooms; after which JAMES OLDHAM, Esq., gave a statement of the religious state of the town, the number of places of worship, &c., and proposed the health of the treasurer and the three secretaries. Mr. Thomas Foster and Messrs. John Wright, Thomas Stratten, and J. G. Milner respectively responded. The health of the Revs. James Sibree, H. Ollerenshaw, and E. Jukes were next proposed and acknowledged. In the replies of these gentlemen, allusion was made to the construction of new chapels on the Anlaby and the Holderness roads.

Mr. S. Morley, Dr. Smith, and E. Baines, Esq., each responded to toasts which had been proposed by Mr. Oldham.

In the evening a devotional service was held, and a sermon preached in the Albion Chapel. The preacher, the Rev. Dr. LINDSAY ALEXANDER, of Edinburgh, gave a very able discourse, and was most attentively listened to by a crowded congregation. He selected as his text John i. 16—"And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace."

The Chairman of the Congregational Union for the ensuing year will be the Rev. David Thomas, of Bristol, in which city the next autumnal meeting will be held. In 1866 the autumnal session is to be held at Nottingham.

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.

In connection with the proceedings of the Union on Thursday, a public breakfast for the members and friends of the Board of Education was held in the Salem Chapel schoolroom, on Friday morning. The chair was occupied by Mr. John Crossley, of Halifax. The preliminary devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. John Sibree.

The CHAIRMAN, in introducing the business of the meeting, said he hoped the time had now arrived when a department of so much importance would not, as it were, be outside of the Union, and have, as at present, to ask for a hearing. It ought really to be more prominent and have greater attention paid to it than it had hitherto received.

As the education of this country was now conducted, and particularly since the introduction of large grants by Government, there was no question that so much affected them who could not receive these grants, and who were therefore placed at a great disadvantage. (Hear.) He knew that in his own neighbourhood schools that had even up to this time resisted all Government interference were now being importuned to accept their grants, and in many instances the pressure was such that there was really great temptation to fall in with the arrangement. He hoped that such would not be the case—(Hear, hear)—although the task was a very unequal one for them to encounter. There were, notwithstanding, a great many schools that were making way; parents were paying a just and fair price for the education of their children, and were thus maintaining the schools without any aid from Government. (Applause.) The support, however, which Homerton College had received was not at all what it ought to have been, for, as regards the merits of the institution, he could speak from his own personal knowledge of a great number of young men and women who had been trained in that establishment and who were really an honour to it. (Applause.) He thought the question was one which ought to be extended very much in their arrangements. It was a very common thing indeed that men in the middle ranks of life, who were desirous of getting an education for their sons, found it difficult to fix upon a school where they might be placed with advantage. Middle-class schools such as those at Taunton ought to receive more attention from the Union, and if they were spared to meet again, he hoped some appropriate time would be given for looking into the question of education in all its departments. (Hear, hear.) It was a pity, he considered, that they had no organised schools for the training of the daughters of ministers.

Professor G. F. MAGOUN, president of Ohio College, U.S., who has been attending the meetings of the Union, was here introduced to the meeting, and was welcomed by the chairman.

The Rev. Dr. UNWIN, president of Homerton College, read a report, in which the Congregational Board of Education offered some practical suggestions calculated to promote the improvement and extension

of elementary education. They suggested for this means the periodical examination of schools, particularly individual examination. It might be done with or without reference to age, and it would devolve upon the teachers to furnish the information required as the basis. Of the two systems, that which took into account the element of age was to be preferred, though the other would be a good means of comparing the Government with the voluntary schools. It would be perhaps best to employ both, taking them at intervals of six months. With regard to the class of education, it was thought that nothing would compensate for bad reading, faulty writing, and imperfect arithmetic. A certain amount of training was, however, necessary to secure self-culture in after years, and this was to be aimed at. No principle was more certain than this, that the success of all their educational enterprises would be in exact proportion to the interest awakened in the minds of parents, and whatever was calculated to secure that object ought to occupy the first place in their attention. ("Hear," and applause.) They believed also that the church must take a deeper interest in the early Christian education of the young before it could be said to have put on its strength. If they were supine, there was no supineness elsewhere; ignorance was not supine, Popery and superstition were not supine, secularism and infidelity were not supine. They did at least wish to emulate the activity of these evils and to participate in their success. The report further suggested monthly reports by teachers and the selection of suitable young persons to be trained for that work. Dr. Unwin concluded by paying a warm tribute to the devoted labours of Mr. Samuel Morley, of London, in the cause of education.

The Rev. E. R. CONDER, of Leeds, believed that the only way by which they could convince the English public of the truth of Congregational principles was to show that they were working—(Hear, hear)—and the best kind of requirement in regard to free education was to show that it could be carried on and made successful, and to make it successful. The West Riding Auxiliary to the Congregational Board had been taking pains to discover what was being done there, and it had been found from the statistics furnished by fifty schools, that in them, in round numbers, 4,000 boys, 2,000 girls, and 3,000 infants, were receiving instruction, and that the scale of fees ranged from 1s. per week to 2d. per week. The school which stood highest in the list was, and had been for some time, self-supporting, and its income was returned at 350% a-year. There were no subscriptions, because no subscriptions were needed. He would ask, where was the practical difficulty, if there were intelligence, energy, perseverance, and organisation, in rendering a school self-supporting? (Hear, hear.) In the instance to which he had referred the master thought that the school would ultimately not only be self-supporting, but that it might also be made to pay. (Applause.) Mr. Conder went on to refer to the fact that in many schools the fees are so low as twopence per week, and said it appeared to him worthy of the most serious consideration, not only of the Independents, not only of Nonconformists, but of all Englishmen, whether this was a healthy state of things. Was it and could it be, a right, a healthy, a profitable, or a desirable thing that the education of their children should be thus pauperised—the children of those who were perfectly able to pay, as experience had shown, sixpence, ninepence, and a shilling per week? (Applause.) It was a point of intense importance that the moral effect on the one hand of pauperising education, and on the other of making the working classes feel that education was worth paying for and that they ought and were able to do so, should be borne in mind. (Applause.)

The Rev. Mr. PARKINSON, of Rochdale, thought that in general their denomination was gaining in strength and in numbers; but that there was one thing in which they had literally, and veritably, and terribly, and greatly declined, in comparison with their own basis, and that was in the work of education—he meant in their interest in it. If they did not mind he believed they would let this vast subject slip out of their hands. (Applause.) For the children born within the reach of their own church, he believed they were doing less than their forefathers did. He was afraid they were letting them go into business or into pleasure without being trained, and into homes where they would perpetuate the evil. (Applause.) They were given to them as children, and they must strive to make them men. That they should train those rightly who were waiting to be trained, was the heaviest responsibility under which they lay. (Applause.)

The Rev. E. JUKES, of Hull, said that since the date of the Government interference in education he had watched the experiment, and his conviction was that the result was to pauperise a large portion of the public mind, and to induce men who had all the means requisite for giving their children a first-rate education to them to the schools supported by the taxes paid by the public. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Jukes went on to say that he had told a gentleman who was making inquiry into the question that if he went through the country he would find that the schools supported so largely by the Government were becoming schools in which the children of the middle classes were being extensively educated. (Hear, hear.) That gentleman had informed him distinctly that that statement was borne out by the facts of the case, and that those schools were becoming schools in which, in virtue of the higher education given in them, the children not only of the higher artisans but of the middle classes were being extensively educated. He (Mr. Jukes) held it was not their duty to think that they had to

educate the great masses of the people. (Hear, hear.) As Nonconformists and Independents, their grand duty had been for the last two centuries that of protestors against evils and proclaimers of truths which stood against these evils. (Applause.) If the evil were the enervating of the manhood of their fellow-countrymen and educating away those more robust qualities of self-dependence—he meant pecuniary self-dependence—State aid was doing so. (Applause.) Nonconformity was this—patiently to wait, and he thought they should not be so anxious about immediate results. He believed the people would come round to their views from the pressure of practical evils rather than by logical processes. (Applause.)

Mr. EDWARD BAINES, M.P., said the Congregationalists of England had always been the friends of the universal education of the people. They had always to maintain that religion and morality were essential elements in education. It was for the sake of imbuing the rising population with the principles of sacred truth and knowledge of the Scripture, and with those principles which should be their guide through life and to immortality, that most of the churches of their order had established and maintained day-schools. (Applause.) Mr. Baines proceeded to speak of the failure of the Government schemes, and the universal dissatisfaction which had resulted. Would any one tell him that the people of England were unable to conduct their own education? They conducted their own literature: they did not ask Government to make books for them. They conducted their own newspapers: he did not know any paper the Government conducted except the *London Gazette*—(loud laughter)—an admirable specimen of what Government literature is. They conducted their own railways, their own industry, manufactures, arts, and agriculture; and the poor clothed and fed their own children. (Applause.) It was quite possible for the Government at headquarters to conduct all the municipal affairs of Hull and Leeds: the infinitely wiser system was to leave the people to do so themselves. (Hear.) He considered that the faults of any Government system, in spite of the best exertions of the wisest politicians and statesmen, were inherent, and could never be cured. (Applause.) His belief was that many wise men had come to see the enormous power of the voluntary system, and to trust it more. They might trust the people, and the more they trusted them the better they would deserve to be trusted. Mr. Baines concluded by claiming the hearty and liberal support of the meeting for Homerton College and the Congregational Board of Education.

The Rev. Mr. SHEDLOCK gave a short account of voluntary schools in Paris.

Mr. SAMUEL MORLEY, in moving a vote of thanks to the Hull brethren for their great kindness in arranging the meeting, said he was prepared to say that on the subject of education they were nowhere. It was their duty upon right principles to guide the young mind with a view to the success which he was confident they were able to achieve. He could not help hoping that considerable results would follow from their being thus together. He held that there was no part of their work that ought more deeply to interest the clergy, and he urged their friendly co-operation in the work of the masters by occasionally visiting the schools. He thought advantage would be derived from the subject being spoken of more frequently from the pulpit. In regard to middle-class education, he trusted they would be able to arrange some plan which would lead to the multiplication of such schools as that at Taunton. (Applause.)

The Rev. Dr. UNWIN, on behalf of the Congregational Board of Education, seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to. The Rev. J. SIBREE having replied, the proceedings were concluded with prayer.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

MEETING AT SWANSEA.

The *Swansea Herald* reports at some length a public meeting held in that town on Thursday, October 13th, in connexion with the Liberation Society. It was held in Bethesda Chapel, which was filled with about 1,000 people, and was the largest gathering ever held in the town in connexion with the society. Mr. Alderman Phillips was called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, after some remarks on the importance of the objects promoted by the Liberation Society, and the social disadvantages incurred by being a member of it, spoke of the good that would result from the separation of Church and State. In order to bring that desirable consummation about, he hoped the Dissenters of Wales would wake up to a sense of their duty and act out their principles manfully at the forthcoming election. (Hear, hear.) It was rumoured that it was the intention of some parties to bring out a rival to their worthy member to contest the seat for the borough of Swansea. If that was the case, and he hoped it was true, he was certain that all the Dissenters, to a man, in Swansea, Neath, Loughor, and Aberavon would vote for Mr. Dillwyn and carry the day triumphantly for him. (Loud cheers.) Their honoured member was a man who not only understood their principles, but carried them out, in and out of Parliament, to their satisfaction. (Cheers.) His consistent conduct and liberal votes, his attention to his Parliamentary duties, his immense services to the borough, and his manly independence, had secured to him not only the votes of the electors but their affections—(cheers)—and a rival would have but a very poor chance indeed. (No, no.) He (the Chairman) wished Mr. Dillwyn a long, long life to serve them

as their member in the House of Commons. (Loud applause.)

The Rev. J. REES, of Canaan Chapel, moved the first resolution, which was to the following effect:—

That to join religion with secular Governments, control it with human laws, and support it with public money, is diametrically opposed to the teachings of the Word of God, and prejudicial to the best interests of the Church; and that the history of the union in every country where it exists, condemns it unsparingly; and that therefore it is a duty incumbent upon every friend of pure religion to do all in his power to put an end to the alliance.

He said he looked upon their worthy member as a model member for Wales—and should like to see more men of his talents, liberality, and integrity, returned from every borough and county of the Principality. (Hear, hear.) Then Dissenting Wales would be represented as it should be represented, and not misrepresented as in many instances it was at present. (Hear, hear.) But fair play to Glamorganshire. They had not much to complain of there. Upon the whole they were fairly represented. And, if the other portions of the Principality were so fairly and liberally represented as they were the Welsh Dissenters would not have much to complain. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Rees then returned to the resolution, and dwelt at some length upon the several points which it suggested. He concluded by saying that Dissenters were a majority of our church-going population. In Wales they were as nine to one. It was injustice perpetrated by the rich on the poor. To call the Established Church "the poor man's Church" was a misnomer; it was the rich ones of the land who found their account in the Church, but the poor were compelled to find the means of supporting it. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. R. A. JONES, Bethesda, in seconding the resolution discussed the history of the connexion between Church and State.

Dr. REES then moved:—

That the Welsh nation has provided ample means of religious instruction to meet the requirements of the whole population by voluntary contributions; that the Establishment is an alien in their midst, whose revenue and influence are used for political more than religious ends; and that the means of religious instruction which it has provided is deficient both in quantity and quality to meet the circumstances and feelings of the people who, were it not for the efforts of the Nonconforming denominations, would have perished in ignorance and immorality.

The rev. Doctor said that facts and figures would bear out the resolution in every particular. The Dissenters of Wales, he said, had built something like three thousand places of worship, which could be seen in every nook and corner of the land, which were filled every Lord's-day with crowded and attentive congregations; and where, he was glad to say, the pure and simple Gospel was preached. The chapels were built and the expenses of the worship were defrayed by the voluntary offerings of the people. They had, it was true, a wealthy Establishment in their midst, and some good men were connected with it both as ministers and members, but the nation did not look at it as belonging to them; it was both in name and fact the "Church of England," and not the Church of Wales. (Hear, hear.) In many places, especially the rural districts, they would see the bulk of the people attending the chapels, and the squire of the parish, a few who aped gentility, and a few poor people who expected to have some worldly favours at the hands of their "superiors," attending the church. After deducting the English residents in Wales, and some well-to-do Anglicised Welshmen, from the Church, they would find the place very empty indeed. Not only were the Welsh, as a people, not to be found in the Church as established by law, but they had never been in it. Their Nonconformist forefathers found the people, not in the church but in the highways and alehouses, attending to rustic sports, and very often encouraged by example in their career of vice by ungodly clergymen, who, in many instances, were the leaders in persecuting the good men who went about preaching the Gospel and saving the country from moral ruin. They not only did not preach the Gospel themselves, but were not willing that others should do so.

The Rev. Mr. JONES having seconded the motion, it was carried unanimously.

The Rev. T. E. JAMES, of Glyn-Neath, in an able speech, moved, and Mr. REES seconded, the following resolution:—

Seeing that the majority of the people of Wales are Dissenters from the Established Church, and that the efficiency of the voluntary principle has been proved here better than in any other portion of the United Kingdom, this meeting is of opinion that the Welsh should give more publicity to their distinctive principles, and endeavour to bring them to bear more directly upon the legislature of the country.

This also was carried unanimously.

After passing votes of thanks to the church and congregation of Bethesda for the use of the chapel, and to the chairman for his kindness in presiding, the meeting was brought to a close by singing the Doxology.

RUTHIN AND DENBIGH.—On the 12th and 13th of this month (October), meetings were held in the above places in connection with the Liberation Society. The deputation which attended on behalf of the society consisted of the Rev. B. Williams, of Denbigh, E. Jones, of Ruthin, and George Kearley, Esq., of London. The chair was taken at Ruthin by J. Griffiths, Esq., and that at Denbigh by J. S. H. Evans, Esq. The proceedings were of a most interesting character, and the able speeches delivered on each occasion were highly appreciated by the audience. Resolutions in favour of the principles and policy of the society were passed with acclamation. We will not attempt to give a summary of the addresses at present, as we intend soon to call

the serious attention of our readers to some important facts in connection with the practical working of this most valuable society. We desire sincerely to thank the committee for sending down such an able deputation as Mr. Kearley. His lucid exposition and telling appreciation of the principles of religious equality cannot less than leave a lasting impression on those who had the privilege of listening to him. We sanguinely expect important practical results to follow these meetings.—*Baner Cymru*.

LOUTH.—Last Wednesday evening Mr. Carvell Williams delivered a lecture in the East-gate School-room, Louth, on "Recent Ecclesiastical Events." There was a good and respectable audience, which was presided over by Wm. Newman, Esq. The lecturer referred to the Parliamentary events of last session, as furnishing indications that the obstructive power of the State-Church party had somewhat diminished. He gave a history of the "Essays and Reviews" cases, to show the helplessness of the Church Establishment in the matter of doctrine, and the new dangers to which it was now exposed. He also called attention to the recent meetings of the Congregational and Baptist Unions, and of the English Presbyterian Synod, as well as to the Church Congress, to illustrate the different positions of the Established and the non-Established bodies in respect to liberty of action, and the power of adapting their machinery to the circumstances of the time. A resolution, thanking Mr. Williams, and expressing cordial approval of the operations of the Liberation Society, was adopted; the chairman, in putting it, eulogising the Executive Committee for their services to the Voluntary cause, and recommending a perusal of the *Liberator*, as a means of obtaining a constant supply of such interesting facts as those furnished by the lecturer.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY IN LANCASHIRE.—We believe our readers in the north of England will be glad to learn that the proposal to establish a district agency in Lancashire—which has been held in abeyance on account of the severe distress which lately prevailed in the district—is about to be carried out. Mr. Kearley, who has long and ably served the society, and is intimately acquainted with Lancashire, is in future to reside in Manchester, with a view to thoroughly working the numerous towns and populous villages surrounding that city. He will shortly place himself in communication with the society's principal friends in the county, that he may ascertain from them in what way he may best co-operate with them in local efforts to advance the society's principles, and to bring the influence of those principles to bear upon the legislature. We are sanguine in the expectation that he will receive that kindness and assistance which he will need to insure the success of his mission, and that the step will prove to be a gainful one for the institution he represents. We may add that his labours will not be confined to Lancashire, but that he will also visit Cheshire, North Wales, Cumberland, and Westmoreland, as frequently as his Lancashire engagements will permit.—*Liberator*.

CHURCH-RATES IN THE PARISHES.

THE CITY.—There has been a Church-rate contest among the parishioners of St. Katherine Cree Church, at the eastern division of the City, in and around Leadenhall-street. A rate of 10d. in the pound was last week carried on a poll by 58 to 47 votes. A protest against the exaction by a number of the inhabitants was handed in. One of the handbills circulated during the contest called upon the ratepayers to decide whether 600*l.* should be levied on them and spent in decorating an empty church.

HORSELEYDOWN.—In the parish of St. James's, Horseleydown, a rate of three-half pence in the pound was much discussed, and carried by 22 to 4, the chairman (Mr. Churchwarden Wilkinson) refusing to put an amendment. There were great complaints that Mr. Charles Curling, the largest ratepayer in the parish, had not paid the last rate, amounting to 26*l.* It seems that the magistrates had in this case declared they had no jurisdiction, the amount being over 13*l.*, and that the churchwardens had been promised support in the event of legal proceedings. The chairman said that he and his colleagues were ready to go into the Ecclesiastical Court with Mr. Curling, if payment of the expense was guaranteed, but they would not do it at their own risk.

CAMBERWELL.—In the parish of St. Giles the Burial Board reported that the churchwardens had claimed from them 30*s.* for every interment in the consecrated portion of the burial-ground, in cases where stones were placed at the head and foot of the grave, 1*s.* for the interment of every adult, and 6d. for that of every child. The opinion of Mr. Lush had been taken, who advised the board that the claim of the wardens was a legal one, but that it could not be paid out of the money now in the hands of the board. The suggestion of the report was that a fee of 15*s.* should be awarded to the wardens instead of 30*s.*, as claimed. The clerk stated that this claim arose from the fact that the wardens were without means to maintain the parish church, and these fees would enable them to do without a Church-rate. On a proposal to adopt the report, a good deal of discussion arose. Mr. Gull said that agreeing to this proposal the Church-rate party would be settled in the parish for all time, and no Dissenters would be taxed for ecclesiastical purposes. The extra fee of 15*s.* would be paid only in cases where stones were erected, but common interments would be charged only the same fees as heretofore. If this proposal was negatived, a Church-rate must be asked for, and he would be sorry for this to be done. The amount of these fees would be about 50*l.*

per year. Mr. E. D. Rogers, as a Churchman, complained that the plan was not a fair one. The burial fees were already too high, and those who attended the parish church ought to pay all the expenses connected therewith, just as Dissenters supported their own places, and attendants upon district churches also paid for their maintenance. Eventually the proposal was carried by 24 votes to 23.

DORKING.—The wholesome experience gained some three years ago by the churchwardens of this parish in the attempted enforcement of a Church-rate, has from that time had a salutary effect. No legal proceedings have been taken to recover the rates made since the period referred to. At Easter last a churchwarden who had for many years been nominated by the vicar, together with his colleague, the parishwarden, retired from office. The new churchwardens evincing no disposition to depart from the conciliatory policy lately adopted by their predecessors, the opponents of the impost, on a notice being given of a vestry to make a new rate, felt that nothing would be lost, and perhaps something in moral influence might be gained, by exhibiting a reciprocal spirit. The same course as last year was therefore taken by the abolitionists at a Church-rate vestry-meeting held in the parish vestry-room on Friday week. The vicar, the Rev. W. H. Joyce, presided on the occasion. A rate of twopence in the pound having been moved and seconded, Mr. C. Rose moved the following amendment:—

That all compulsory exactions for the support of religion being opposed to the genius of Christianity, to the precepts of the New Testament, and to the practice of the primitive Church; that Church-rates, in particular, being oppressive to Nonconformists, and in this parish—divided into districts—unfair to the congregations of the district churches, this vestry hereby resolves that an application be made to the attendants of the parish church for contributions to raise the amount now estimated to be requisite for the repair of the fabric and the other expenses of the current year.

Mr. S. Beck seconded the amendment. The vicar, as on previous occasions with similar motions, refused to put the amendment, and Mr. Rose protested. Mr. T. Marsh then moved, and Mr. Stringer seconded, another amendment as follows:—

That this vestry hereby refuses to make a Church-rate.

This motion, however, shared no better fate than the preceding one, and Mr. Marsh likewise protested. The opponents of the rate now left the vestry in a body, and the original resolution was put and carried. There can be no doubt of the invalidity of the new rate, as, in addition to the chairman's refusal to put the relevant amendments moved at the vestry, the presence of an illegal item in the estimate, and an imperfect record of the minutes, evidently vitiate it. Nor is this all; for the inclusion in the assessment of a new district, formed since the passing of Lord Blandford's Church-building Act, still further complicates the matter, and renders any attempt to enforce the rate a hopeless undertaking. The opponents of Church-rates in Dorking have reason to be thankful, rather than otherwise, that the chairman of the vestry yearly performs the very acceptable part of vitiating every Church-rate that is made.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—It will be gratifying to the opponents of Church-rates to know that in the parish of Walthamstow, where there has been an annual contest for so many years past, the churchwardens, with the concurrence of the vicar, announced at the last meeting of vestry (held for the passing of the churchwardens' accounts), that they did not intend to apply for a rate. The authorities have adopted a system of pew-rents, which it is hoped will supply the needed amount. One of the late opponents offered to give 5*l.* in aid of incidental expenses, but the churchwardens respectfully intimated it would not be required, as he believed the church would do better after a time without rates. This must be most encouraging to Churchmen, and seems to say to those who have not yet adopted the Voluntary principle, "Go and do likewise."

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—A second vestry-meeting has been held in this parish, which has resulted in a majority of about 40 to 16 against the rate. A poll was demanded by the churchwarden.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.—At a vestry-meeting held in this village on the 20th inst. a rate of three-halfpence was proposed, but not seconded. Mr. Stamford then moved, and Mr. Newport seconded, an amendment, which the chairman (the vicar) refused to put. The rate was not put to the show of hands, but a poll was demanded by the mover of the rate.

BALLIOL COLLEGE.—On Friday last the Fellows of Balliol College, Oxon, came to a resolution which will thenceforward admit Roman Catholic undergraduates to that great and learned society.—*Daily News*.

ECCLÉSIASTICAL JURISDICTION AT THE CAPE.—The Supreme Court of the Cape Colony has quashed the sentence of deprivation pronounced by the Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church on the Rev. Mr. Kotzé, one of her ministers, on the ground that the accused was not allowed a legal trial.

THE "UNION REVIEW" PLACED IN THE INDEX EXPURGATORIUS.—We are informed upon reliable authority that a letter has been received from the "Holy Office" at Rome by a distinguished Roman Catholic prelate, who has for some years been a warm supporter of corporate reunion, and has taken a deep interest in the *Union Review* and its policy, intimating that this Church of England magazine has been formally placed upon the Index, and that Dr. Manning (through whose influence so distinguishing a mark of dislike is said to have been obtained) has been commissioned to warn all those members of the Roman Church in England who have been in the habit of contributing to its pages,

that they will be expected to discontinue the practice under pain of excommunication.—*The Churchman*.

THE ORGAN IN SCOTLAND.—At the close of the afternoon service on Sunday the Rev. Dr. Lee intimated to the congregation of Old Greyfriars (Established Kirk) that a sum of 500*l.* had been subscribed for the purpose of erecting an organ in the church. The rev. Doctor thanked the congregation for their liberal response to his appeal, which he said he knew was very much intended as a proof of personal sympathy with him in regard to this matter, and named a committee of the congregation to co-operate with the elders and deacons to take steps for the immediate building of an organ in the church. It was hoped that the instrument would be in use before the next meeting of the General Assembly.—*Scotsman*.

THE CASE OF CLERICAL BIGOTRY AT COLYTON.—On Sunday afternoon a meeting of the congregational committee of St. George's Chapel, Exeter, was held, Sir J. Bowring in the chair. The following resolution was unanimously passed:—

That, as a Christian congregation, we feel it incumbent on us to record our protest against, and our reprobation of, the late exhibition of priestly intolerance in refusing to a Dissenter burial in the parish churchyard of Colyton; that we deem such an act as an unwarrantable assumption of despotic authority, opposed alike to the spirit of the age, to the teachings of our religion, and to the principles of civil and religious liberty; and that we shall willingly co-operate for the exposure and punishment of those who have violated the well-recognised conditions of social kindness and charity, and for the placing on firm foundations the right of private judgment and conscientious conviction.

We are glad to hear that legal proceedings will be taken against the Rev. M. Gueritz for his breach of the law. This is a matter in which all liberal-minded men are interested. In other places burial has been refused to Dissenters, not because of any peculiar opinion they may hold, but simply because they were not church attendants.—*Devon Weekly Times*.

DR. NORMAN MACLEOD ON ECCLESIASTICAL COQUETRY.—Our readers are well enough aware that a somewhat ominous flirtation has been carried on of late between certain ecclesiastical leaders of the Scottish Episcopal and Established Churches. At the close of his address on missions on Tuesday, Dr. Norman Macleod gave his deliverance on the matter, and a very explicit and decided deliverance it is, and all the more significant that he had the ex-moderator, Dr. Bisset, and the actual moderator, Dr. Pirie, present before him. After claiming to have in his own congregation the "three orders,"—he having a set of ordained deacons, which he wished every congregation in the Church had—Dr. Macleod went on to say that he had no wish to hear himself addressed as "Lord Bishop of the Barony," or his friend before him as "My Lord Bishop of Bourtie." "They needed no unions with other Churches, in order to do their work, far less with that Church, with its titled bishops, which had always been a stranger to Scotland, and never more alienated than now." "And, while we have gentlemen, whom we respect as scholars, inviting us to join that communion, we, because we think it wrong, forbid the banns." There is no mistake about this; and we honour Dr. Macleod for having courageously put his foot on the miserable flunkeyism, which has of late been making "debasement signs to catch the eye" of the hierarchy, and other occupants of the high places of the land.—*Aberdeen Free Press*.

ECCLESIASTICAL JOBBERY.—A correspondent of the *Times* exposes a specimen of ecclesiastical jobbery at Durham. We have already announced that the Rev. S. A. Farrar, of Queen's College, Oxford, brother of the late curate of Trinity Church, Sheffield, has been appointed a Professor of Divinity at Durham, with a reversion of the canonry attached to that professorship when it may fall vacant. The arrangement under which this takes place is somewhat as follows:—The latter professor, anxious to release himself of his duties without loss of the pay and dignities of his office, has offered to the bishop to resign 700*l.* a year to pay a successor in the professoriate, provided he may retain the canonry during his lifetime. At his vacating this canonry it will add 300*l.* a year to the income of the professorship, but the late professor was able to stipulate, when the revenues of these preferments were in course of reduction, that his should be exempted from the common fate. He has consequently been receiving in his capacity of canon-professor no less than 3,500*l.* a year, which sum, less than 700*l.* to be paid to his successor, he is to continue to enjoy. The question now arises whether the bishop has any right to fill up the office on terms which are totally unrecognised alike by the original foundation and by subsequent enactments for the government of the University. Mr. Farrar may be the best man for the post—though it is hardly likely that a first-rate man would accept second-rate terms—but few can believe that the bishop and the professor have any right or power thus to underlet the office and to forestall the patronage.—*Sheffield Independent*.

CANON M'NEILE AND BROTHER IGNATIUS.—At the meeting of the Church Pastoral Aid Society at Liverpool last week, Canon M'Neile spoke of the monastic system and of Brother Ignatius. He strongly advised that that gentleman should be let alone and not abused, and this is how he does it himself:—

There was one individual, whose name he did not wish to mention, who was at this moment presenting a sad picture of monomania. He (the canon) had looked at that individual's eye closely, and if ever he saw deep insanity burning in an eye he saw it in his. God forbid that he should speak with aught of levity and unkindness upon this subject. He deeply sympathised with that young man in his affliction. (Hear, hear.) The

concentration of the intellect upon one thing alone produced monomania; and if this individual was a monomaniac they pitied him, but they would not be such fools as to be led away by him. (Applause.) They ought not to be so vulgar and vainly curious as to run after him because he had a shaven crown and an ugly, un-English, unnatural garb. (Laughter and applause.) Let the man, if he was a sane man, come attired and robed as others. (Hear, hear.) He might be a deacon of the Church, but he never had, and it was to be hoped never would, receive priest's orders. (Hear.) Why, he seemed ashamed of his name already. He was rightly the Rev. Mr. Lyne, but, instead of using his diaconal name, he designated himself Brother Ignatius. If he was not in sympathy with the Church of Rome, why did he wear her rags, and bear her titles and her names? (Loud applause.) He (the canon) hoped those present would take the advice which he had also given in the city of Manchester, and which he believed would be taken by the large body of Protestants worthy of the name of this country. Let the man alone—(renewed applause)—let them have nothing to do with him—don't abuse him, don't follow him—don't listen to him, and insignificance would soon smother him. Let them treat him with entire indifference and contempt, and he would soon rid them of his presence." (Prolonged applause.)

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

The Emperor and Empress of Russia have arrived at Nice, where they purpose to stay for some time. The Paris papers state that the Emperor Napoleon will set out for Nice this week. *La France* mentions a rumour that the Emperor and the Czar would not meet at Nice, but elsewhere. A Russian frigate has arrived at Villafranca, on her way to Civita Vecchia to fetch the Czarowitz.

It is thought that M. Drouyn de Lhuys will in no case remain long in office. He gives out to his friends that he will certainly resign should he find the convention of Sept. 15 interpreted in a sense hostile to the temporal power. In that event M. Thouvenel would no doubt replace him.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes an article of M. Paulin Limayrac, in which it is stated that the Convention of the 15th of September having been concluded in good faith, its execution will be equally so. The same paper combats the exaggerations both of the extreme revolutionary party and also of the ultra-Conservative party, who distort the text of any treaty, however clear.

ITALY.

The Chamber of Deputies was reopened at Turin on Monday, Oct. 24, under the presidency of Signor Cassinis. A very large number of Deputies were present, including the members of the old Ministry. The new Ministry were in their places. The town was perfectly quiet, and the military were not called out.

In the Chamber of Deputies Signor Della Marmora laid on the table the Franco-Italian Convention and the diplomatic correspondence connected therewith. Signor Lanza brought forward a bill for the transfer of the capital to Florence, and requested that it might be declared urgent. Several bills were introduced by different members, requesting an inquiry into the late events at Turin. An investigation was agreed to, and a committee of nine members appointed for the purpose. The bill for the transfer of the capital to Florence fixes the necessary credit at 7,000,000 *lire*. The Ministry made a statement in the Chamber of Deputies relative to the Franco-Italian Convention. They presented the Convention to the Chambers, not only believing its sanction to be henceforth a political necessity, but being convinced that its benefits are immensely superior to its inconveniences. The Ministerial declaration acknowledged the grave sacrifices involved in the transfer of the capital, but, as the result of this measure would be the removal of foreign troops from Italian soil, and the preparation of a satisfactory solution of the Roman question, it was in the name of the national dignity, independence, and unity that these sacrifices were called for.

The diplomatic documents communicated to the Chamber are the Convention and the Protocols of the 15th of September and the 30th of October, two notes from Signor Visconti-Venosta to the Chevalier di Nigra; a note from the latter to the former; and the declaration of the late Ministry to the King. The note of Chevalier di Nigra to Signor Visconti-Venosta, laid upon the table of the Chamber of Deputies on Monday, relates the history of the negotiations upon the Franco-Italian Convention. He states that the French Government demanded, in addition to a promise not to attack Pontifical territory, some real guarantee in order to inspire the Pope with confidence in the Catholic sentiment of the King of Italy. The Italian negotiators had formal instructions to reject all conditions contrary to the right of the nation. The Marquis Pepoli informed the Emperor Napoleon that the Italian Government, from strategic, political, and administrative reasons, was occupied with the question of removing the seat of Government from Turin. The Emperor replied that this resolution would remove many difficulties. Chevalier di Nigra further states that in the negotiations it has been well understood that the Convention should not and cannot signify either more or less than what it states—namely, that Italy undertakes to renounce all violent measures.

The *Diritto* and some other newspapers, which contained the declaration of Garibaldi against the Franco-Italian Convention, have been seized.

A meeting has been held by a society of working men at Turin, at which a resolution was passed to invite the working class generally to prove by their

actions that they are not forgetful of their reputation and their past actions, and they will maintain in the present days a calm and dignified attitude. Moreover, the resolution declared that they would regard as a traitor to his country whoever should attempt to disturb public order.

Letters from Venetia confirm the statement that several districts of Lombardy had been invaded by armed bands dressed in the Garibaldian uniform. One band, commanded by Tallassi, formerly a captain in Garibaldi's army, took possession of the treasury of the tax-collectors at Spilembergo and Maniago, leaving in return a formal receipt. During the occupation the Italian flag was displayed by the invaders. Subsequently they received orders to disperse and to hide their arms. Up to the present time the leaders have not been captured, although many arrests have been made. A strict watch is maintained on the frontiers by the authorities, no emigrants being permitted to pass.

DENMARK AND GERMANY.

According to a Copenhagen paper, "the peace negotiations at Vienna are not yet terminated, instructions upon the financial question having been very recently sent to the Danish Plenipotentiaries at the Conference."

A motion has been carried in the Lantag of Lauenburg for annexation to Prussia. According to a Berlin semi-official paper, Prussia is not in a position to accept this offer "without further negotiations, since Austria, in virtue of treaties, is in fact, co-possessor, and has through the alliance acquired moral rights which the Cabinet of Berlin will conscientiously respect."

The Federal Diet has decided that a very considerable portion of the expense incurred for the Federal army of execution and the civil administration of Holstein shall be defrayed from the revenue of the Duchy.

General de Falkenstein has now published a decree in Jutland, which shows that Denmark, instead of having to receive any sum of money on the conclusion of peace, must, on the contrary, expect to have to pay a considerable amount to liquidate all the expenses of the occupation.

The German populations of Schleswig-Holstein continue to manifest their desire for the early installation of a definite Government under the sceptre of Duke Frederick VIII.

AUSTRIA.

It is stated in Vienna, that Count Rechberg has tendered his resignation, and that it has been accepted by the Emperor. Count Mensdorff-Pouilly is mentioned as his successor, but nothing definite is as yet known.

The opening of both Houses of the Austrian Reichsrath is announced to take place on the 12th of next month. This is earlier than was expected.

GREECE.

A Royal message was communicated to the National Assembly in its sitting on the 19th. The King complains of the slowness of the Parliamentary debates, which exasperates the people, and fixes a period of one month for the Assembly to finish drawing up the Constitution and the electoral law. Should this not be accomplished at the expiration of that period, the King reserves to himself liberty of action, and throws the responsibility upon the Assembly.

The National Assembly having been told by the Ministers that the signature of the Constitution could not take place unless a proviso for the creation of a Council of State was claimed in it, adopted the royal proposal after a discussion, by a majority of 136 to 124, ten members abstaining from voting.

The following is the despatch from Lord Russell to Mr. Erskine, of which the Greek papers have given a very distorted version:—

Foreign Office, Sept. 19.

Sir,—I have received your despatch of the 1st inst., reporting the request of Count Sponneck that her Majesty's Government would exert their influence with the National Assembly, and especially with the so-called "English party," to induce them to proceed with the discussion of the Constitution without unnecessary delay.

You will state to Count Sponneck that her Majesty's Government have no relations with any political party in Greece, and only wish to act in concert with France and Russia in the general interests of Greece.

But as regards the request made by Count Sponneck for the exertion of English influence on the National Assembly, you will say that although her Majesty's Government would not object to her Majesty's representative expressing to any deputies who may speak to him on public affairs an opinion in favour of an early settlement of the Constitution, it would not be consistent with the principles of her Majesty's Government to attempt to influence the decisions of the Assembly, while to do so would be setting a bad example, and might lead other Powers to exert influence in some other and more objectionable direction.

The less foreign Powers interfere in the internal affairs of Greece, the better will be the prospect of internal tranquillity and external peace for that kingdom.

I am, &c.,

The Hon. E. M. Erskine.

RUSSELL.

NEW ZEALAND.

The *Gazette* publishes despatches from Lieut.-General Sir D. Cameron, containing an account of the interview with the hostile natives at Tauranga, which resulted in their submitting unconditionally to the Governor's authority by placing all their lands at the disposal of Sir G. Grey, the Governor of New Zealand. Sir D. Cameron expressed a hope that the liberal terms conceded will induce other tribes to

make their submission. Sir G. Grey, in his address to the hostile natives, said:—

I shall order that settlements shall at once be assigned to you, as far as possible in such localities as you may select, which shall be secured by Crown grants to yourselves and your children. As it is right in some measure to mark our sense of the honourable manner in which you conducted hostilities, neither robbing nor murdering, but respecting the wounded, I promise you that in the ultimate settlement of your lands the amount then taken will not exceed a quarter of the whole land; and in order that you may, without delay, be placed in a position which will enable you to maintain your future location, when it has been decided, seed potatoes and the means of settling on your lands will be given you.

Addressing next the friendly natives, Sir G. Grey promised that they should be rewarded for their fidelity.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Letters from Odessa announce the death in that city of the Russian General Liprandi, who was distinguished during the Crimean war.

The young Prince, son of the Prince Royal of Prussia, was baptized three days back at Berlin, the names given to him being Francis Frederick Sigismund.

We hear that a young and wealthy Bengal rajah is a candidate for a commission in the military service of her Majesty the Queen. The rajah in question takes his title from Nattore. The application has been well received by the military branch of the Government of India. Sir Robert Napier regards it very favourably, and as military member of the Council of the Governor-General, placed it before Government for recommendation to the Secretary of State for India.—*Times of India*.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES left Copenhagen in the Osborne on the 22nd. They were accompanied on board by the King, the Royal family, the ministers, and members of the diplomatic body, and a large number of the higher civil and military officials. Their Royal Highnesses were attended by a guard of honour, and salutes were fired from the batteries and men-of-war in the port. Large crowds of people were present at their embarkation. The Prince and Princess arrived at Travemünde on the morning of the 25th, and proceeded on their journey by special train, *via* Büchen and Lüneburg.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION is exciting a good deal of bitterness in Lower Canada. Several meetings of Protestants have been held, at which resolutions were passed denunciatory of the present condition of the law with regard to the regulation of public schools. It has been alleged that the policy of the Government has been to foster Roman Catholic schools and colleges to the detriment of Protestant educational institutions. Protestant landholders complain that they are obliged to pay taxes for the support of Roman Catholic schools in places where Protestant schools are not established, and also where Protestant schools exist where such landlords are non-residents.—*Letter from Toronto*.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—There is, it is said, no doubt of Mr. Gladstone's determination to stand again for the University of Oxford, and his friends and supporters are very sanguine that he will be returned by a larger majority than ever. It is confidently stated in University circles that Mr. Gathorne Hardy, who was educated at Oriel College, will be brought forward in opposition to Mr. Gladstone, whenever an election may take place. For the first time there will at the next election be voting by proxy, which is likely to tell against Mr. Gladstone, but his wonderful popularity is regarded as more than a set-off to any gains that might arise to his opponent.

FINSBURY.—Mr. William Phillips, one of the candidates for Finsbury, has issued a new address on his return to town. He states that his committee has 600 members, and he is confident that he need not fear a contest. But he adds:—

If it should be your pleasure to elect me in an honourable manner, I shall deem it a real honour to serve you; but if this position is only to be won by a lavish expenditure of money, by opening fifty taverns and calling them committee-rooms, by tall-talk and flowery promises, and by attempting to satisfy the exactions of the crocheted-mongers and semi-professional wire-pullers of the borough, then I must be content (having discharged what I consider a responsibility) to stand aside, and wait for the time when constituencies will be more anxious to secure disinterested and working representatives than they are now.

WOODSTOCK.—The electors of Woodstock have resolved to contest the right of the Duke of Marlborough to elect the member for the borough. Lord Alfred Churchill retires, and Mr. Henry Barnett has been nominated by the Duke as Lord Alfred's successor. But the suffrages of the electors are to be solicited, not by Mr. Bazley, jun., but by Mr. Mitchell Henry, son of the late member for South Lancashire, and, it is reported that such a sufficient number of the electors have welcomed Mr. Henry's candidature, as to give him a reasonable prospect of success.

BUCKINGHAM.—It is stated that a section of the Conservatives of this borough who are dissatisfied with Mr. Hubbard, are desirous of inviting Mr. P. Fitzgerald, of Upton House, Warwickshire, to become a candidate at the next election.

CARMARTHEN.—Mr. William Morris, banker, cousin to the late member, has received a requisition, signed by 521 electors, being a large majority of the voters on the register, inviting him to become a candidate for the vacant seat. Mr. Morris has

issued an address, signifying his willingness to comply with the requisition, and stating that as regards his political opinions, they are in unison with those of the late member. The majority of the electors having indicated their choice by this requisition, it is now expected that there will be no opposition to Mr. Morris's return.

DURHAM.—The Liberals have determined to start another candidate with Mr. Pease, viz., Capt. F. B. Beaumont, who, in the course of his address to the electors, says:—

I am in favour of the abolition of Church-rates; theoretically, I have no objection to compromise which should relieve Dissenters from the Established Church of the unfair onus of its direct support; but, thinking that such a course is impracticable, and believing that the true strength of the Church of England is to be found in the affections of the people, and that its efficiency does not depend on the pittance to be derived from a rate, I shall not allow any specious proposals to interfere with my vote for total abolition.

I shall support every measure calculated to promote the education of the country consistent with freedom of conscience and perfect religious liberty, and I think that State Endowments for the purpose of forwarding secular education should be open to all denominations.

Had I been in Parliament last session, I should have supported the bill for the abolition of tests at the University of Oxford.

NORTH ESSEX.—The following, according to a paper now before us, is the result of the late revision for this constituency:—Tories struck off register, 755; Liberals, do., 62—693 Liberal gain on objections. Liberal claims admitted, 490; Tory do., 115; Liberal gain on claims, 384. Total Liberal gain, 1,077. Numerically the new register will be 302 less than the present one, but the voting power will be 378 less, there having been eighty-three duplicates expunged and only seven duplicates admitted.

THE REGISTRATION COURTS.—In Ashton-under-Lyne the Liberals have a slight gain; in Bury, Lancashire eleven votes; in Norwich, 112; in West Surrey, 45; in Leicester a few. For the county of Leitrim, the increase of the Liberals has been so important as to warrant the anticipation that a second Liberal will be on the hustings when the occasion arrives. The Conservatives claim to have gained in Cirencester (7), Coventry (200), East Kent (188), London city (206), Malton (129), West Norfolk (263), Tewkesbury (22), on the recent revision.

Postscript.

Wednesday, October 26, 1864.

AMERICA.

The Asia, which arrived only yesterday at Crookhaven, brings advices from New York to Oct. 13.

Mr. Stanton announces that despatches from General Grant, since his return to head-quarters from Washington, on Saturday last, report no farther movement.

General Lee's report of the engagement on the 8th on the north of the James River states that he attacked the Federals on the Charles City Road, and drove them from two entrenched lines, capturing ten guns. Finding the enemy further strongly entrenched, he did not press them. General Gregg was killed. Southern journals claim that the engagement was a signal victory, the Federals being driven five miles from the city. General Grant reports that his loss on that day amounted to 400 men, the Confederate loss being 1,100.

Sheridan has retreated to Strasburg. He reports that on the 9th inst. he repulsed Early's cavalry, who followed him to that point, capturing 330 prisoners and 11 cannon. He declares that he had devastated the whole country between the Blue Ridge and North Mountains, destroying 2,000 barns and seventy mills, which were filled with hay, farming implements, meat, and flour. In retaliation for the shooting of a subordinate officer he burnt all the dwellings within five miles' radius of the spot where he fell. General Longstreet has superseded General Early.

Sherman reports on the 9th inst. that Hood's forces, operating in his rear, had occupied Dalton, and that he feared an attack by them on Kingston and Rome. He adds that seven miles of their way to Chattanooga are destroyed, but that, having plenty of provisions in Atlanta, he feels secure so far as his main army is concerned. Hood has retreated to Dallas. General Sherman was at Kenesaw, repairing the railroad between Atlanta and Alatoona.

Despatches from Augusta, Georgia, of the 8th instant, to the *Richmond Whig*, report the recapture of Rome by the Confederates, with over 3,300 prisoners.

General Beauregard's new department includes East Louisiana, Missouri, Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia.

A Federal force of infantry and artillery from General Washburn's department, under Colonel Hodge, proceeding up the Tennessee on transports, conveyed by gunboats, was attacked and driven back at East Point, on the 10th instant, by General Forrest. The Federals admit the loss of two transports, all their artillery, and fifty men killed and wounded.

General Burbridge, who, with a large Federal force, was recently sent from Mount Sterling, Kentucky, to

destroy the saltworks in South-eastern Virginia, has returned to Kentucky unsuccessful. He attacked Saltville on the 3rd inst., and was repulsed with heavy loss; and, having expended his ammunition, was forced to retreat precipitately.

Latest accounts from Missouri, to the 12th instant, state that the Confederates have withdrawn from before Jefferson City, moving westward. They have destroyed the bridges and portions of the Pacific Railway, near Sedalia.

President Davis had returned to Richmond.

The Republican ticket had been elected in Indiana and Ohio by a large majority. The Democratic party had gained largely in Pennsylvania. The soldiers' vote was awaited to decide the election. The voting in Maryland showed the probable adoption of an anti-slavery constitution.

Mr. Auguste Belmont, chairman of the National Democratic Committee, had published an address to the people of the United States denouncing the acts of tyranny and usurpation of the administration, the suppression of Democratic newspapers, and imposition of test oaths. He concluded with threats of the adoption of revolutionary measures in case of any illegal interference in the approaching elections.

The *New York World* publishes a statement, showing that the public debt, including the appropriations to be made by the next Congress, amounts to 4,000,000,000 dols.

Chief Justice Taney died at Washington on the 12th. Gold was 109 prem. at New York on the 13th.

CANADA.

The British American Conference at Quebec have unanimously resolved upon the confederation of all the provinces.

MEXICO.

Advices from Mexico, to the 1st instant, state that the Mexican army has been defeated near Durango, with a loss of twenty guns. The French have occupied Matamoras. Vidaurri has given in his adhesion to the Empire. General Bazaine was preparing for the return of those French troops under orders to leave Mexico.

LATEST CONTINENTAL NEWS.

It is positively stated that peace will be concluded with Denmark in the course of the present week.

The sittings of the Italian Parliament have been adjourned until further order.

A despatch from Udine says that a band of about 100 insurgents, among whom were several deserters, had taken refuge in the forest of Consiglio. Several deserters at Cadore and Belluno were endeavouring to join them.

The Emperor of the French is to leave to-morrow for the south. Herr von Bismark has arrived in Paris, and has had an interview with the Emperor. *La France* alludes to the rumour of an understanding between France and Austria, and states that the Venetian question is a difficulty in the way of any such understanding, which only very considerable concessions on the part of Austria could remove.

The King of the Belgians will probably visit Nice immediately. His Majesty left Geneva yesterday.

The reports about the resignation of Count Rechberg are denied.

The Progressist party of Spain are stated to have decided, at a meeting convened to discuss the question, that their policy of abstention from interference in politics is to be continued.

The Prince of Wales arrived at Hanover yesterday, and was received by the King and Crown Prince at the railway-station.

It is said that M. Berryer is about to visit England, and will be entertained at a banquet by the most distinguished members of the legal profession in this country.

THE TRIAL OF MULLER is likely to commence to-morrow morning, at the Central Criminal Court. The indictment was sent before the grand jury yesterday, and after a consultation of some two hours they found a true bill. It is expected that the trial will last two days, and should witnesses to facts be called for the defence, the verdict will in all likelihood not be given until Saturday evening.

ANOTHER CASE OF STARVATION is reported from Bethnal Green. A woman named Jameson worked as a shoebinder, but could not earn money enough to find her in sufficient food. Bit by bit she parted with her clothes, and at last lay down and died. She had been urged to go into the workhouse, but had refused. The coroner's jury, before whom these facts were yesterday stated, brought in a verdict that death was accelerated by the want of the common necessities of life.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat on sale here to-day, was very moderate. For most qualities, the trade was firm, but the demand ruled far from active. In prices no change took place, compared with Monday. With foreign wheat, the market was well supplied. On the whole, the trade was firm, and Monday's prices were steadily supported. Floating cargoes of grain were in moderate request, at full quotations. There was a fair supply of barley on the stands. Fine malting qualities sold readily, at quite previous rates; otherwise, the trade was dull, on former terms. The demand for malt ruled far from active, at late rates. There was a good supply of oats on the stands. In most descriptions, a fair business was transacted, and prices ruled firm. Beans and peas were in slow request, at previous quotations. Flour moved off slowly, at late prices.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Farmer," and the letter on the Dissenting Marriages Act, next week.

An "Inquirer (R. S.*)" is informed, that the only information concerning the progress made by the Nonconformist churches during the last few years is contained in the denominational manuals, such as the "Congregational Year Book," the "Baptist Hand Book," &c. A valuable summary of some of this information was given by Mr. Baxter, M.P., in his late speech at Montrose.

*** Subscribers and Advertisers are respectfully informed that the payment of sums exceeding five shillings cannot be received in postage stamps.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1864.

SUMMARY.

LORD STANLEY has been summing up the political position, and casting with mathematical nicety the horoscope of the future, in a speech before his constituents at Lynn, which makes it difficult to believe that his lordship is at all identified with the Opposition. Lord Stanley, in relation to foreign affairs, favours a policy of peace and non-intervention. He thinks that in America the North will overpower the South, after which the real difficulties of the Federal Government will begin. The Franco-Italian Treaty will no doubt lead to the absorption of Rome—or at least the Roman territory—into the new kingdom. Germany will, he thinks, eventually divide into two great States for military and diplomatic purposes—the petty sovereignties being absorbed. The Turks being doomed, we ought not to stand in the way of the transfer of their power to the races which must ere long become dominant in the East. Lord Stanley advises the Government to give way to Australia on the transportation question—advice of great weight as coming from a former Colonial Minister. His lordship surveys our finances with the minuteness, and more than the frankness, of a Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Gladstone's fiscal policy could hardly be improved upon. If our prosperity continues, he looks forward, with reasonable economy, to a relief from taxation in the next four years to the extent of six or seven millions, which will enable the *de facto* Government to surrender the fire-insurance duty, bring down the income-tax to 3d. or 4d. in the pound, and perhaps reduce the malt-tax. On Parliamentary reform his lordship reserves his views—the middle-classes, the most powerful in the nation, are, he thinks, not likely easily to surrender their supremacy. Lord Stanley concluded by indicating a number of practical reforms which might meanwhile be attempted, and as to ecclesiastical questions, Parliament is not disposed to interfere actively in that direction.

In entire contrast to his lordship's calm and somewhat precise address, was Mr. Bernal Osborne's harangue to his constituents at Liskeard, which comprised a rattling review of the late Session and a pungent attack upon Lord Palmerston, who, with Mr. Newdegate and Mr. Bentinck, are the three unadulterated Tories in the House of Commons. Mr. Osborne declines to be a mere delegate to support a Government which has cushioned Reform, sold the cause of Church-rate abolition, refused justice to Ireland, nibbled only at retrenchment, and filled high offices with men of high connections, fit only to blow the bellows of their pariah organs. Thus bitterly does this political guerilla assail his former colleagues, winding up with the declaration that the Liberal party is in the Slough of Despond

without a flag or leader, and with the expression of a belief that some new combination ought to be tried. Cannot the Whigs again muzzle their troublesome assailant?

We are told from Vienna that the terms of peace between Germany and Denmark will be concluded this week. It is probable enough, judging from the fact that Prussia, after having quartered her troops for some months upon the unhappy Jutlanders, is now sweeping off whatever funds are left in the local treasuries "to defray all the expenses of the occupation." The little Duchy of Lauenburg—or rather the landowners there—votes for annexation to Prussia, and Herr Bismark, with affected coyness, promises to consult the Court of Vienna—co-partner in the spoils of the Danish war—on the subject. In that capital, changes are impending. The Rechburg policy is worn out; and the Emperor Francis Joseph, having to choose between active support to the Pope and increased debts and dangers, or reconciliation with Italy and retrenchment, seems to prefer the latter, and is disposed to throw overboard his Holiness and the Minister who supports him.

King George, the youthful Sovereign of the Greeks, has a sad time of it. The National Assembly is in so little haste to complete the constitution and resign its functions, that their new monarch has found it necessary to hint at a *coup d'état*. Asked by Count Sponneck to use his influence with the procrastinating Assembly, Earl Russell declines to employ any pressure, as "not consistent with the principles of her Majesty's Government," and as setting a bad example to other Powers. "The less foreign Powers interfere in the internal affairs of Greece," says his lordship, "the better will be the prospect of internal tranquillity and external peace for that kingdom"—a wise remark, which shows that the events of last session have really modified the traditional policy of our Foreign Office.

The Italian Parliament has opened an important session at Turin in peace and quietude. The Turinese have swallowed the bitter draught, and are resigned to their fate. The various documents relative to the Franco-Italian Convention have been produced, and time is to be allowed for studying them before they are discussed in the Chambers. But the new Government have, without delay, introduced a bill proposing a credit to defray the expenses of transferring the capital to Florence. There is no doubt that Garibaldi rejects with scorn the Imperial concessions on the Roman question, but his countrymen and colleagues in the Legislature seem quite content to accept them. The last accounts from Rome report great depression at the Vatican, and real fear that the temporal power of the Pope is about to pass away. "But," says the *Times* correspondent, "as yet no wisdom has been learnt, and no line of action determined, except it be that of cold obstruction. The modern Canute, instead of retiring with dignity before this mighty upheaving of the waters, will waste his impotent efforts in commanding them to retire until he and his regal chair be swept away." At present the Papal Government is waiting, Micawber-like, to see what will turn up. May it wait in vain!

The American mail brings little news of the war. Grant is quiescent; Sheridan has retired nearer to his supplies in the Shenandoah Valley, which he is engaged in desolating; and Sherman finds all his attention taken up in repairing the great damage to his railway communications caused by Hood, who is operating in his rear, has occupied Dalton, and is said to have recaptured Rome. As the premium on gold is again creeping up at New York, it may be assumed that the military prospects of the North are somewhat less bright than they were.

The Presidential election, however, absorbs more attention for the moment than the struggle in the field. The Western States seem likely to disappoint the *Times* correspondent. In the testing election for local officers in Ohio and Indiana—States which have been represented as all but ready to throw off the Lincoln yoke—the vote of the latter being always doubtful, the Republican "ticket" has been adopted by large majorities. But in Pennsylvania, the Keystone State, the issue is not so sure. Its vote is likely to be decidedly Republican, but with a diminished majority. The violent protest of the Democratic National Committee is an electioneering device, indicative of despair of a party success at the approaching Presidential struggle.

While the desolating war in America is proceeding, the inhuman system of slavery, for which it was first begun, is crumbling to pieces. The magnitude of this social revolution does not excite adequate attention in this country. When the flag of independence was raised by the South, there were some four millions of negroes in the Slave States. Of these, according to the statement of President Davis himself, as many as two millions have been lost to the South during the war. They have poured into the Free States, and con-

tinued to arrive by thousands from nearly every one of the revolted territories, but especially from Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama. The North is overwhelmed by the hundreds of thousands of negroes who are thrown on their hands. Large numbers have, however, been provided for. "Multitudes," says the *Leeds Mercury*, "now work side by side with white labourers in the North. Multitudes fight side by side with white soldiers in the armies of the Union. Multitudes cultivate the soil under an organisation which has nothing of the objectionable features, though in some respects it may preserve the outward form of slavery. Multitudes toil in the South under free masters as free labourers, receiving wages and raising crops of cotton on the natural system of supply and demand. But there are multitudes more continually arriving in the North or in the camps of the Federal soldiers, and for these the work is to begin. They need to be maintained until employment can be found." For this purpose a Freedman's Aid Society has been formed, and is asking help of the English people. It is a purely philanthropic enterprise—quite beyond the unaided liberality of free Americans—which all who are interested in the welfare of the negro race, whatever their opinions on the political aspects of the struggle, may suitably and effectually assist at the present moment.

THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL ELECTION.

It seems that some mystification is being practised with regard to the precise period at which the present Parliament will be dissolved, and a new one summoned. The legal term fixed by the Septennial Act for the duration of Parliaments, will not have expired, we are informed, until the close of the year 1865, and there is no sufficient reason to be found in the present state of political affairs for appealing to the constituencies until after the completion of another Session. Public expectation, it has been represented, was misled by laying too great a stress upon constitutional usage, which, it appears to have been discovered, is not imperative on the Government to observe. The rumours which were all but universally current of a General Election in the spring of next year, left out of consideration the contingency of that event upon the undisturbed position of the Ministry. Should the Palmerston Administration be left by the Conservatives without serious molestation next Session, we are instructed by some unknown authority to dismiss all idea of the dissolution of the present Parliament until next autumn. The public, however, do not accept these speculative announcements with anything like confidence. Guesses—for as yet they can be nothing more—vary from day to day; and the London correspondent of a Liverpool journal intimates that the time fixed for the General Election, is neither the spring nor the autumn of next year, but the coming November of the present.

We do not give implicit credence to any of these rumours. They can be little better than conjecture. They are probably put forth to serve temporary party purposes, whether by the understrappers of the Government, or by others. We question whether Lord Palmerston is himself sure of the precise season at which he will advise Her Majesty to summon a fresh Parliament. The noble lord's preference may be to defer the constitutional process to the latest practicable period. But the Premier's decision will necessarily be dependent upon the concurrence of a majority of his colleagues. We do not imagine it likely that a Cabinet conclusion was arrived at before the dispersion of Ministers to their much needed recreation, and we have not observed that Cabinet Councils have since been resumed. It is not impossible, of course, that conflicting sections of the Queen's Government may have ascertained by correspondence some basis of agreement for the present. But this also is conjectural, and the probabilities are that the matter has yet to be settled in presence of all the facts and tendencies of the political situation. We shall probably get at more reliable information after the first two or three Councils have been held. Meanwhile, it will be but common prudence to take nothing for granted, however confidently announced. The conflict of opinions given seemingly on trustworthy authority, indicates that there is uncertainty behind the scenes, and there can be no doubt that there exists a strong temptation on the part of "whips" to take the weaker of the constituencies at least, at unawares. We may be sure that their machinery is not only in good working condition, but at work—and they will "take time by the forelock" whatever others may do.

Come the election, however, when it may—

next month, or next spring, or next autumn—there will assuredly be no lack of good and cogent reasons for selecting candidates who have made up their minds to an advance. "Confidence in the noble lord at the head of the Government," however it may seem to certain constituencies to present a sufficient guarantee of Liberal opinions at the present moment, will, we suspect, prove to be a very embarrassing profession when the appeal to the country is really made. Should the noble Viscount be still the First Lord of the Treasury, he will not, we venture to predict, continue to be the accepted leader of the Liberal party. If he persist, as he seems intent on doing, on having an election without a programme, he will be compelled to carry out his intentions with a far different class of coadjutors than that with which he is at present associated. They will not be parties to putting before the country a personal, in lieu of a political, issue. They will either succeed in forcing the aged Premier to move on, or they will leave him to make such fresh ministerial combinations as will allow him to stand still. At any rate, he will not be able to surround his position with a show of Liberalism which has no corresponding reality. No one who knows him expects him to throw up the reins. He must either, therefore, carry with him some Liberal principles, or he will have to take with him less Liberal colleagues. In either case it will be an awkward dilemma for those constituencies who have accepted Palmerstonian candidates on the assumption that the present "rest-and-be-thankful" policy is destined to continue. In the one case, those candidates will cease to sympathise with their chief—in the other, the chief will have forfeited the confidence of the Liberal constituencies. No one can foretell Lord Palmerston's whereabouts at the forthcoming election—but it is all but certain that it will not be where it now is.

These considerations, if allowed their due weight, might make such constituencies as have the least regard for political progress, extremely wary of those who now claim their suffrage on the ground of their readiness to support a Palmerston Administration. What will be the character, what the composition, of the Government of which he will be the Premier, when the political voice of the country has to be pronounced? Will they be what they are now?—what they have been for some years past? The answer of the event to this question will make all the difference in the meaning of that profession of adherence with which some candidates are being pushed upon constituencies under colour of their Liberalism. Let the question be pondered whether the name of the noble lord would be accepted as equivalent to a Liberal creed, if Mr. Gladstone, for instance, and the other members of the Cabinet who generally sympathise with him, were to retire and be replaced by moderate Conservatives? If not, it would be but justifiable prudence to decline accepting it now. To say nothing more, Mr. Gladstone's reputation for sincerity demands of him that he will not concur in asking the country to content itself with an uncertain foreign policy, and a negation of a domestic one. We cannot believe that the Chancellor of the Exchequer intends so to sacrifice himself. He has a character to sustain. He has awakened expectations which he is bound to make some advance to meet. He is not indifferent to that future in which he is destined to take so prominent a position. He will not consciously be an accomplice in delusion. He will, doubtless, insist upon putting a definite issue before the people, and, failing in that, he will decline responsibility.

THE LATE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.

THE announcement of the death of the Duke of Newcastle reached us last week at a moment so close upon our usual time of publication, that we were precluded from doing more than making a brief reference in our Summary to the melancholy event. We cannot, however, satisfy our own feelings without recurring to the subject, and placing before our circle of readers the estimate we had formed of one of the most upright, most manly, most industrious, and most ill-treated of modern statesmen. There are some men yet living and in office, to whose cheeks, we will venture to hope, the Duke's death could not fail to bring up a blush of shame in the recollection of the base part which they played towards him in the most critical and trying epoch of his life—men who, if they had not been able to shelter themselves behind a wide reputation and powerful political connections, would have condemned themselves by their desertion of, and disloyalty to, their own colleague, to perpetual exclusion from high office, and to well-deserved public infamy for the rest of their days. Public opinion has already done justice between the Duke of Newcastle and those who pointed him

out as a convenient scapegoat for their own and other men's political sins. It may, perhaps, be too much to expect that the chief perpetrators of that dastardly wrong should do more than silently acquiesce in a reversal of that judgment which they did so much to secure.

Of the late Duke it may be said that his life, which opened with a brilliant morning, was early overclouded by misfortunes, and that during its too brief duration, they allowed him scarcely an appreciable interval of sunshine. From the first hour at which his sound common-sense, his reverent regard for conscience, and his brave independence of spirit, came into conflict with the adverse circumstances which surrounded him, he was destined to bear the brunt of successive shocks which must have tried his mettle to the utmost, and he bore it gallantly. Possibly, his own honesty of self-judgment may have traced some of the trials which put his fortitude to the proof to mistakes of his own. Of this we are without information; but if it were so, it is beyond a doubt that the heaviest of them smote him on that side of his character which was most praiseworthy. His political contest with his father, his heartless desertion by his wife, his family troubles, his comparative poverty, owing to the extent to which his estates had been encumbered, the breakdown of the War-Office system under the strain of war when he was at its head, and, finally, his cruel betrayal by his colleagues, were perhaps due in part to errors for which he felt himself in part responsible, but they were errors which cast no discredit on his moral rectitude; and he accepted the penalties of them, excessive as they were, with a magnanimity that ennobled him far more than his ducal coronet. His character never gave way. He indulged in no repinings. He sought no revenge. He retained his interest in public affairs. He abated not one jot of his patriotism. He preserved himself free from cynicism. He lost nothing of his generosity or disinterestedness. He did not grow careless—and when, at length, he emerged from the horror of darkness that had overwhelmed him, shattered in health by the intensity of his disappointments, he stood before his countrymen with a conscience as unstained, honour as untarnished, patience as unexhausted, affections as warm, and manners as considerate and gentle, as can be found in any statesman of the present age.

Our personal acquaintance with the late Duke was limited to the three years during which he presided over the Educational Commission. So far as that Commission may be looked upon as a success, the result was due, in no slight measure, to the qualities he displayed as President. His acceptance of the difficult and delicate post at the solicitation of the Marquis of Salisbury was in itself a rare act of unselfish devotion to the public good. He could hardly hope to win from it any accession to his reputation—the chances were that the experiment, forced upon a reluctant Ministry by Sir John Pakington, would prove a failure. The Duke gave, as, indeed, did all his fellow-commissioners, his service gratuitously. He took upon him, however, the responsibility with the distinct stipulation that, under his supervision, the inquiry must be a sincere one. He selected his colleagues with that view. There was little *a priori* probability that men who differed so widely from each other on the subject-matter of the investigation, would be able to present a unanimous report. Nor perhaps, would they but for the singularly harmonising influence exercised by his Grace in the chair. If he displayed little fertility of resource, the singleness of his motives and his excellent good sense enabled him to seize every useful suggestion, and his practical tact usually found out how they might be so combined as to contribute to unity of effect. There could not but be many earnest discussions, not merely on administrative details, but on first principles, in the attempt to fuse into a common conclusion the mass of information collected. All such debates, however, his unflinching courtesy, his thorough impartiality, and his marvellous self-command, helped greatly to keep within the bounds of unruffled good humour. Never did President assume less the air of authority, nor invite more frankly or constantly the freest utterance of opinion. No man could be more tender in his treatment of irrepressible prejudices, or labour more kindly and skilfully to heal the bruises which they might inflict. And he was no mere ornamental President. He gave his attendance and attention as conscientiously as at a Cabinet Council—and again and again sat out his three or four hours when his bloodshot eyes attested the severity of the physical pain he was enduring. Twice during the continuance of the Commission he had a fair excuse for quitting his post—the first when he took office as Colonial Minister—the second, when he accompanied the Prince of Wales to America—but on both occasions he yielded to the wish of his colleagues that he would consent to retain it. With whatever

impressions respecting him they may have commenced their labours under his presidency, we are confident that not one of them saw his task completed without being filled with the highest admiration of his qualities as a public servant, and a warm appreciation of his noble and genial character as a man.

The late Duke of Newcastle won his influence far more by his moral than by his intellectual qualities. Of the latter, indeed, he exhibited far more than sufficed to entitle him to high respect. But his political power grew mainly out of his character. The time is approaching, we trust, when British statesmanship will be inseparably associated with sincerity, honesty, industry, and disinterested devotion to the public good, and when solid rather than flashy qualities will be regarded as indispensable in those to whom is entrusted the conduct of public affairs. The hearty appreciation of the late Duke's character by publicists of all parties, encourages the expectation that vivacity, agility and tact are ceasing to be estimated above their due worth. At any rate, we seem to be tending towards the day when the Government of this vast empire will be regarded as too serious a business to be delivered over to any statesmen but such as can show a moral aptitude to recognise their great responsibility.

CANADA'S OFFICIOUS FRIENDS.

Who has not met with people that can always manage the affairs of others better than their own? Blundering and unsuccessful themselves, they can easily set their neighbours to rights. Candid criticism and officious advice is their rôle; and while perhaps absolutely neglecting their own interests, they are in a fever of anxiety lest their adopted clients should disregard their counsels, and thereby come to grief. Their persecuted friends may have the presumption to imagine that they best understand their own business, and that they alone are in possession of the data on which to found a wise conclusion. But protests in this sense are set down to ignorance, indolence, want of spirit, or obstinacy. If the advice of outsiders is not accepted, the poor victims have the satisfaction of listening to the prophecies of the misfortune or ruin which is to follow, and are perhaps harassed in their minds and affairs because they decline, for reason perfectly satisfactory to themselves, to follow the suggestions of their patrons.

Canada, at the present moment, occupies the unhappy position of a daughter worried by maternal advice and exhortation. Mrs. Mother Country is in a nervous flutter because her elder child will not see the danger that "looms in the distance." Our Government and politicians have warned her in vain. Ostrich-like she shuts her eyes to the perils around her. Entreated, reasoned with, stormed at, she has neglected to arm at our bidding against remote, and, as she thinks, vague possibilities. Does she not see a giant Republic bearing down on her to swallow her up in its capacious maw? Cannot she hear the distant tramp of armed legions marching to invade her territory and take possession of her homes? Alas! no. "So far as I can understand," writes Mr. Goldwin Smith from Toronto this very month, "Canada, in this the fourth year of her supposed peril, has no real military force of her own of any kind whatever. The volunteers, her only nominal force, cannot be got together for drill in the country, owing to the thinness of the population, and when drawn from the population of the towns, they are allowed to be of little military value. These people, as I hear it said on all hands, 'do not understand' the necessity of a standing army. As a farming and money-making people they are peaceful in their tendencies and objects; and if our Government will let them alone they will be peaceful in their demeanour also, and continue to trade quietly with neighbours who only wish to trade quietly with them."

How woefully mistaken the Canadians are in giving way to this false security, we are informed by no less an authority than the correspondent of the *Times*. That imaginative gentleman, finding it distasteful to record Federal victories, has been visiting Quebec, from which Canadian city he writes a letter of three columns, published in the *Times* of Saturday, which, so far as any trustworthy information it supplies, might as well have been composed in Printing-house-square. It is quite in the style of his American romances—a foregone conclusion to which all the facts must be bent. The writer does, indeed, so far agree with Professor Smith, as to admit that the Canadians are apathetic. They are still nursing themselves with the delusion "that the Americans are likely to have too much work on their hands in cutting each other's throats during the next dozen or twenty years to have either men

or time to spare for the wicked invasion of a colony that has done them no injury, and that sincerely desires to be at peace with them and with all mankind."

But the Canadians—perhaps under the influence of this sensation writer—are finding out "the impolicy of remaining quiescent." Events are fast teaching them to distrust "the unscrupulous and greedy people" across the frontier, and there is hope that they may ere long "yield to the demand of the British Government that they should show their faith by their works, and their loyalty of spirit by their chivalry of action." Mercy on us! Are the Canadians so thoroughly arousing themselves that they are going to anticipate this "wicked invasion" by crossing the American frontier? There is one little fact that may mitigate our alarm. We have a dim recollection that this fire-eating correspondent is the bosom friend of Fernando Wood and the editors of those New York papers of Southern proclivities, which alone have periodically, and for party purposes, raised this cry for the annexation of Canada, and are now, happily, entirely excluded from power.

We turn elsewhere for further consolation. What do the Canadians themselves say? They have their own papers, which we ought not to ignore even in the presence of that go-a-head correspondent who tells us he has travelled "upwards of twelve hundred miles through the towns and cities of Upper and Lower Canada." Well, we turn to the *Toronto Globe*, perhaps the most influential and representative journal in Canada, and lo! there is a lecture to ourselves. The editor of that paper is audacious enough to condemn "the alarm which certain parties in England are so persistently raising in reference to the dangers of an American invasion of Canada as exceedingly pusillanimous." The *Toronto Globe* thinks that when the present struggle closes, the Northern States will have had enough of war. With provoking calmness our contemporary remarks:—

When we remember that we have lived peaceably side by side with them for fifty years, we are really not entitled to infer that there is now an increased danger of their making war upon us, when they would have to do so under circumstances the most unfavourable to themselves. We are the rather warranted in believing that if there is anything in their character as a people which would lead them to make a needless war, the experience of the past three years has done something to correct and moderate that disposition. Moreover, those who make unjust quarrels are usually very much disposed to calculate carefully the chances of success. A man may begin a fight in a just cause against great odds, but a fight in a bad cause is not often begun in the face of known disadvantage. We may be pretty certain that neither the mother country nor these provinces will give them just cause for attack. If we have war at all, we shall have a war in which our invaders will be, in the true sense of the word, the aggressors, and as we have said, of such a war there will be for years to come less chance than there was during the long period of peace, when the American idea of war was formed from wars with the Indians and the effete races of Mexico.

And then the Canadian journalist, gathering fresh courage as he proceeds, complains that the well-meant advice of "certain people in England"—he might have added America too—is really no joke—

It leads them to make impossible demands upon us, and to condemn the policy of the empire which allows us to belong to Britain without performing those impossibilities. It does damage to us in other ways. It must tend to keep emigration from our shores, and possibly to divert it to the very country whose supposed evil designs give our distressed guardians so much concern. It must tend to lessen public confidence in our financial affairs, and has possibly a little to do with the decline in Canadian securities which has occurred within two or three years. If, in place of doing us these injuries, our English advisers really wish to serve us, they will cease to point out imaginary dangers for us, and content themselves with knowing that our people can be relied on to do the very utmost possible in their own defence when the occasion actually arises. Meantime we can only be wise to make such preparations as seem to us reasonable, and as are not calculated to retard our prosperity.

This rebuke to the "candid friends" of Canada is very cutting and well-deserved. We could wish the *Times* would profit by it, and leave the Canadians to manage their own affairs in their own way. Perhaps they know what they are about. We suspect so from a little fact which seems to have been beneath the notice of the *Times* correspondent, because we suppose it could not easily be manufactured into dirt to be flung at "the unscrupulous and greedy people of the adjoining States." But though this writer ignores it, there is no doubt that, in the city from which he professes to write, and within a week of the despatch of his disgraceful diatribe, there was to be held, with the sanction of the Imperial Government, a formal conference of the Governments of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward's Island, for the purpose of considering and agreeing upon a complete scheme for embracing all those provinces in a Federal Union, upon a basis accepted in principle at a preliminary conference at Charlotte Town, Prince Edward's Island. We should have thought that the probability of the

speedy combination of these several States into one grand British American Confederation would have kindled the hopes and checked the "pusillanimous" alarms of this great traveller in Canada. At all events it is likely to form an epoch—perhaps the greatest—in our colonial history, and in the annals of the North American continent.

Since the above was written, a brief telegram has been received to the effect that the Quebec Conference, which opened its sittings on the 10th inst., unanimously resolved upon a confederation of all the provinces of British North America. Is this mutual engagement the first step towards independent existence? We will not now discuss a question in which feeling more than interest is involved. Under any circumstances, the mother country will regret to part with her daughter. But we think there can be no doubt that by this new combination, Canada and all the adjacent provinces have adopted the wisest and most effectual, as well as the cheapest, safeguard against external aggression.

GARDENS.

GARDENS have their own charms in winter, but we are not grown submissive yet, we confess, to the great fall of calling our late summer garden, our winter garden. While we write the swallows still dart and wheel overhead, and a stray butterfly still finds out warm and sunny places on the wall. Almost all the flowers are dead, and half the leaves changing colour, but the smell of many roses seems even yet floating in the air, and we half expect to find even now enough summer fruit for a basket.

After being steeped for a week or two in November fogs, and driven quite indoors by the east wind, we shall doubtless find the crisp gravel very pleasant in a bright January day, and the frost-hung gossamer on the hedge, an agreeable change to the eye from the embers and the ashes of the grate. Meanwhile, we are, neither in body nor in mind, acclimated to the changes which the atmosphere threatens. We are neither off with the old love nor on with the new. The old Adam within us rebels as at a new loss of his Eden, as the summer recedes and grows dim. Our very intellect feels that it must transpose its music, and keep different tune and time before there is the heart-charm of a fruitful train of thought in the once populous and now cold garden. What grammarians call the "Active voice," is, perhaps, the more worthy for a verb; but for men there is something very congenial—say from June to August—in the passive voice, and in being perfectly passive, too, as to your sense and your mood. You float with the most serene equipment from the present to the future, from the future back again to the past. If any one and very individual perfume brings back vividly the memory of some other "garden which I love," then you may live for an hour or two in the past, and the hum of bees, and the far-off note of wood pigeons, will fall in well with the illusions of memory and imagination. If you be

A happy lover, who has come
To look on her, who loves him well,

the future would be bright enough to you and to her anywhere; but the tints will be of their best and most golden hue in the garden. Or you may even be contented with the present and the moment which is passing. If, like Mendelssohn, you are tired of crowds, and your brain be overtaken, you may find, as he did at those times, an apple-tree in bloom, and lie down under it in the green grass, and think of nothing. All this you may do, have, perhaps, often done, in the summer. What a change when the leaves have fallen! As you must walk briskly now not to catch rheumatism, and, indeed, to keep warm at all, so your very thoughts now must either quicken their pulse, or absolutely stagnate and freeze. Reveries and day dreams may go very well with the temperature of Madeira or of midsummer; but it is astonishing how alert and how practical we grow as the thermometer sinks! A dear old friend of ours invariably comes to the conclusion, as winter approaches, that he really does mean to turn over a new leaf this time! How is it, that just at that time books of a solid kind begin to shoulder aside novels at the libraries, and young men suddenly fall studious, and the very Sunday-scholars seem to have a feeling that their lessons are to partake rather less of play and rather more of work? Do the fibres of the human understanding gird themselves up to a closer, more energetic action, in sympathy with the tightening of the particles of the soil, crystallised, bound up by the frost? We will not undertake positively to say. What we do know is, that though at all times of the year we dearly love to tread both the gravel and the lawn of the garden, the

enjoyment is of a kind totally distinct in October and in May. The garden itself does not look more different than our conditions of mind and whole points of view are different. It would almost seem as if the soul, too, like the earth, had her orbit; as if she left something of her own on her yearly track of the planet on which she lives, and came back in due time; as though the signs of the Zodiac to associations and states of feeling which had meanwhile hung suspended on nothingness, or hovering in space. Happily, there are some gardens which, as they possess in themselves a beauty which is perennial, so, too, they open their arms to us, in whatever mood we may chance to be, and we feel at home at once as we enter, and go away always with a sweeter temper and a spirit calmed. We are not thinking of Chatsworth or of Kew. No fountains need sparkle and spout for us, and the rare and delicate creatures which live in glass houses may be conspicuous by their absence. Our attachments are humbler; for example, there is a warm corner in our heart for a certain garden, not in England nor in Scotland, albeit within British seas. No formal boundary marks off the kitchen-garden from the flower-garden. An immense yew hedge, as broad and as square as it is freshly and unalterably green, separates a wide and ample space, filled well with choice old-fashioned fruits and flowers, from another sphere still larger, where there are rather fewer flowers, and a perfect Covent-garden plenitude of fruit. After all, the hedge is no barrier, for you may walk round either end. As you go up and down the long and winding paths, you may soon travel a full mile. As you try the flavour of each gooseberry-bush in turn, and come still to another row and another, you begin to understand how it is that, when at last even an unlimited hospitality has failed to clear off the crop, the children of a school close by, turned in every year to devour every sweet thing, finally bring the mighty harvest to an end. Why should we speak of the jessamine and the moss-rose? Let us not forget, at least, two gigantic mulberry-trees, between which, as through a living gateway, you enter in. With their grey and ancient stems, and their thick embowering head of branches and of leaves, to say nothing of the ripe and juicy fruit, they, too, have their part in the lasting spell which this garden flings over all who visit it. Possibly they figure forth, too, as in leafy parables, another word of the secret, namely, how such scenes may, in some who live in them, both help to prolong happy lives, and to mellow beauty of character, and do in return catch a trace or a reflex of those virtues, and that story of long, well-spent years—"The righteous shall flourish like the palm-tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing; to show that the Lord is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him."

Religious Intelligence.

SURREY CHAPEL.—The Rev. J. M. Greatley, assistant-minister to the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., of Surrey Chapel, London, has been compelled to resign on account of severe injuries sustained in an accident on the Great Western Railway.

ECCLESTON-SQUARE CHAPEL.—Two handsome porches having been built, to secure better egress from the chapel, two collection sermons were preached by the Rev. J. Spencer Pearsall on Sunday, Oct. 23rd, to complete the sum of upwards of 500*l.* expended in the alteration. This chapel, built by the late Seth Smith, Esq., has been vested in trustees.

WILNECOTE, NEAR TAMWORTH.—On Tuesday, October 18, 1864, a public tea-meeting was held in the Independent Chapel, Wilnecote, a village station of the Congregational church, Tamworth, which was numerously attended. After tea the choir—which at the present time is a very efficient one, numbering about twenty—entertained the company with thirteen pieces of instrumental and vocal music, which, both in the selection and execution, did them great credit, and afforded much pleasure to the audience. Among these pieces were the "Hallelujah Chorus" and "The Marvellous Works." At intervals interesting addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. Major, of Stoke Goldington; A. Taylor, of Coleshill; J. Read, of Atherstone; and T. Burgess, the pastor.

WINDMILL-STREET CHAPEL, GRAVESEND.—A circular was, in the course of this summer, distributed among the members of this congregation, inviting them, on the part of the officers of the church, to unite in diminishing the debt remaining on the building fund. The sum due amounts in all to about 500*l.*, and from various causes has remained with only slight diminution for some years past. It was proposed to divide it into two portions, and to secure, if possible, promises to the extent of 250*l.* On Wednesday last, the Rev. E. S. Pryce, the minister, presided at a social meeting which was held to report progress, when promises were given in, varying in amount from 20*l.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*, making

up altogether 275*l*. This, it is now anticipated, will be increased to 300*l*. by the end of the year, leaving the sum of 200*l*. only to be cleared off by some future and final effort.

HENDON.—ERECTOR OF A MINISTER'S HOUSE.—A public meeting was held in the schoolroom on Thursday evening, October 13, to promote the above object. The Revs. Josiah Viney, Wm. Brock, jun., B.A., S. W. McAll, M.A., Thos. Hill, G. D. Bartlett, with many other friends, attended, and expressed their hearty sympathy in the movement. A piece of ground worth 500*l*., and available for other church purposes, has been most generously given by Thos. Spalding, Esq., of Ore-place, Hastings. Contributions and promises to the amount of nearly 500*l*. have been already received, and 500*l*. more will be required.

ST. HELEN'S.—ORDINATION.—On Wednesday, Oct. 12, the Rev. Robert John Ward, of Airedale College, who has officiated for several months past in the Independent chapel, St. Helen's, was publicly ordained to the pastorate of the church and congregation assembling in that place of worship. A numerous congregation was present at the service, which commenced at eleven o'clock. The Rev. E. Giles opened the service and offered up prayer. After another hymn, the Rev. Enoch Mellor, of Liverpool, delivered the introductory discourse, explanatory of the nature and constitution of a Christian church. At two o'clock dinner was provided in the schoolroom adjoining the chapel, to which about 100 ladies and gentlemen sat down. Amongst the number present were the Rev. E. Mellor, R. Bagnall, Dr. Fraser, and Mr. Ward (father of the newly-ordained pastor). In the evening of the day the Rev. Robert Bagnall, M.A., of the Congregational church, Scarborough, preached to a crowded audience.

ENFIELD.—The old Independent chapel, after having been closed for more than three months, and having undergone an entire renovation, with various additions and improvements, was reopened under the name of Zion Congregational Chapel, Chaseside, on Tuesday, Oct. 4. An admirable discourse was delivered in the morning by the Rev. James Spence, D.D., of the Poultry Chapel, London, from John i. 37. In the evening a public meeting was held, at which Mr. Alderman Abbe occupied the chair. After prayer by the Rev. T. J. R. Temple, addresses were given by the Revs. Clement Dukes, M.A., J. Spence, D.D., Samuel Joseph Smith, B.A., T. J. R. Temple, W. M. Robinson, John Mark, and J. Stribling. The weather proving fine, a large company assembled from various parts of the neighbourhood and London. Dinner and tea were provided in the new schoolroom; after the dinner speeches were delivered by the ministers and other gentlemen present, in which many sentiments of kindness and esteem were expressed towards the Rev. John Stribling, pastor of the church, who has been labouring in this place during a period of thirty-two years. The great improvement effected in both the exterior and interior of the structure, met with unqualified admiration. The collections were of a most liberal description. On the following Sunday, two sermons were preached by the Rev. J. B. Talbot, of London. The outlay is about 500*l*.

HATFIELD HEATH.—The ordination of the Rev. G. E. Singleton (late student of Cheshunt College) as successor to the late Rev. Cornelius Berry, who was for nearly fifty-three years pastor of the Independent church and congregation meeting here, took place on Tuesday, Oct. 11. At eleven o'clock, the hour of morning service, arrived, the chapel became very full. After singing, prayer was offered by the Rev. James Wood, of Sawbridgeworth. The introductory discourse "On the Constitution of a Christian Church," was delivered by the Rev. H. Gammidge, of Dunmow. The usual questions to the church and young minister were proposed by the Rev. H. R. Reynolds, B.A., president of Cheshunt College, who also offered the ordination prayer. The charge to the minister was given by the Rev. S. Martin, of Westminster, and the closing prayer was offered by the Rev. D. Davies, of Stansted, Mountfitchet. Among the ministers present, some of whom assisted in the service, were the Revs. Dr. E. J. Evans, of Bishop Stortford, assistant tutor at Cheshunt College; J. C. Rook (Thaxted), J. T. Davis (Epping), F. Edwards, B.A. (Harlow), W. Cuthbertson, B.A. (Bishop Stortford), J. W. Richardson (West Dulwich), C. Duff (Stebbing), E. J. Stevenson (Luton), J. Fowler (Little Waltham), &c. A numerous company afterwards dined together in the schoolroom, S. P. Matthews, Esq., in the chair; and at six in the evening a good congregation again assembled in the chapel to hear a sermon from the Rev. John Raven, of Ipswich. On the following Sunday, the Rev. J. C. Rook preached special sermons having reference to this occasion.

STANSTEAD, ESSEX.—The interesting ceremony of laying the memorial-stone of the new Congregational chapel at this place was performed by Isaac Perry, Esq., of Chelmsford, in the presence of a large assembly, on Wednesday, October 12. At three o'clock a large number of ladies and gentlemen had assembled to witness the ceremony. A hymn having been sung, and portions of Scripture read, the Rev. W. Cuthbertson, B.A., offered prayer. Rev. D. Davies, the pastor, having made a few remarks relative to the occasion, Mr. James Pigram, the senior deacon (in his ninetieth year) presented a very handsome silver trowel to Mr. Perry; and Mr. Glasscock, the builder, presented to him a beautiful mallet made of the wood of the old chapel. The trowel was of a very elaborate finish, with ivory handle, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Isaac Perry, Esq., on laying the memorial-stone of the new Congregational chapel, Stanstead, October 12th, 1864."

Mr. Perry then proceeded to lay the stone, after which he delivered a most excellent address on the principles of Nonconformity. Several offerings were then laid on the stone, amounting to about 50*l*. After the doxology had been sung, this service was concluded with prayer offered by Rev. D. Grigsby. Tea was provided in the Central Hall at five o'clock, and this large room was soon filled. After tea, a public meeting was held in the same place, at which Isaac Perry, Esq., presided. The assembly was addressed by the Revs. J. W. Richardson, W. Cuthbertson, B.A., J. Harrison, H. Gammidge, D. Grigsby, Joshua Green, Esq., also by C. Frost and J. Fennell (deacons). The evening was enlivened by several beautiful anthems, sung by friends from Bishop's Stortford. The day was remarkably fine, and all the proceedings were highly interesting and successful. The new building, which is a substitute for the old chapel erected in 1698, and the origin of which may be traced to the memorable period of 1662, is calculated to seat 500, and there is provision made for the erection of side galleries when required, which will give 150 additional sittings, and thus it will be capable of holding 650. The entire outlay is estimated at 1,500*l*., and towards this sum a little more than 1,100*l*. has been promised.

HARWICH, ESSEX.—Anniversary services of the Congregational chapel, Harwich, have just been held, and the debts on the chapel liquidated. The chapel was erected in the year 1800, at the commencement of the ministry of the late Rev. William Hordle. In the year 1858, under the ministry of the Rev. C. S. Carey, now of Bungay, extensive alterations were made, at an expense of above 700*l*., to render the place, which had become very dilapidated, more suited to the comfort of the congregation, and of the increasing numbers of visitors to Harwich and Dovercourt during the summer months. This amount had been reduced to 400*l*. at the commencement of the ministry of the present pastor, the Rev. J. T. Barker, formerly of Louth, Lincolnshire, in November, 1860. Early in the year 1863, at a meeting held for the purpose, the congregation resolved to make a strenuous effort to extinguish the debt then remaining—300*l*. As soon as this resolution was publicly announced, H. Philbrick, Esq., of Halifax, who had previously contributed liberally, generously offered 100*l*., upon condition that the whole debt be extinguished by October, 1864. Messrs. Wells and Perry, of Chelmsford, with their accustomed munificence, also kindly offered 50*l*. upon the same condition. Thus stimulated, the people made the effort, and, with the aid of several donations by friends in London and in the country, were able to raise the required amount by the anniversary services held in August last. The Rev. J. Steer, of Sudbury, preached on Sunday, 21st August, and a tea-meeting was held in the chapel on the Thursday following. The occasion proved to be one of much enjoyment and thankfulness, as, during the meeting, the pastor made the gratifying announcement that a sufficient amount had been raised to secure the extinction of the debt. The meeting was addressed by the Revs. E. Jones, J. Raven, and J. Gay, of Ipswich; F. Newman, of Manningtree; and J. Kenny, of London. Upon receiving the sums promised, the treasurer paid the amount due, and the debt was cancelled by the first day in October. The ladies of the working society have commemorated the occasion by presenting a new Bible for the pulpit.

DEWSBURY.—The Rev. J. Shillito, after a pastorate of eight years at Ebenezer Chapel, Dewsbury, having accepted a call from the congregation worshipping in Norwood Chapel, Liverpool, preached his farewell sermon at Dewsbury on Sunday week. The chapel was crowded to excess, and hundreds were obliged to go away. The text selected was Phil. iv. 19, "But my God shall supply all your need, according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." On the Monday evening a public tea-party was held in Ebenezer schoolroom. After tea the numerous company adjourned into the chapel, when the Rev. J. Collier, of Earlsheaton, took the chair, and addressed the meeting at some length, speaking in the warmest terms of the character and labours of Mr. and Mrs. Shillito. Mr. C. H. Marriott then presented to the rev. gentleman an address engrossed on vellum, and prepared in the form of a book, which, after very cordial expressions towards Mr. Shillito, stated that since he had been there a minister's house had been erected, at a cost of 850*l*., and alterations made in the chapel and schools, for which about 650*l*. has been raised. In addition a new interest has been originated at Earlsheaton, where an elegant and commodious chapel and schools have been erected; and, notwithstanding the removal of seventy church-members, with a corresponding number of the congregation, the sittings are to a great extent again occupied, the chapel and school premises, together with the minister's house, are now entirely free from debt. The subscribers requested Mr. Shillito's acceptance of a purse containing one hundred sovereigns. Mr. John Walker presented Mrs. Shillito with an address from the Dorcas Society, accompanied by a card-case. The Rev. J. Shillito acknowledged the gifts of the attached people whom he was now about to leave, with deep feeling. The chairman referred to Earlsheaton Chapel, and said that friends there now wished him to present to Mr. Shillito some slight memorial indicative of his honourable character and of his ministry, which had been marked by fidelity and usefulness—a time-piece, which had been purchased at the cost of 24*l*. The following inscription appears on a silver plate affixed in front:—"Presented to the Rev. J. Shillito by the congregation of Highfield Independent Chapel, Earlsheaton, as a mark of esteem, and in recognition of his voluntary and efficient assistance

in that place of worship. Earlsheaton, 10th October, 1864." The Rev. T. Pearson (Wesleyan), Mr. S. Oates, Mr. Mark Tolson, Mr. J. Woodcock, Mr. Bentley, Mr. Eastwood, and other gentlemen addressed the meeting, all speaking in the highest terms of Mr. Shillito, and bearing witness to the faithfulness of his ministry and the extent of his labours.

BOCKING.—PRESENTATION TO THE REV. T. CRAIG.—On Wednesday, the 12th inst., the Rev. Thomas Craig, pastor of the Congregational church, Bocking, completed the sixty-second year of his ministry in that place, the event being celebrated by a meeting so numerous attended, and the proceedings of which were of such a character, as to be second in interest and impressiveness only to those of the reverend gentleman's jubilee, held twelve years since. The lapse of this latter period, and the unabated affectionate esteem and high respect in which the Rev. Thomas Craig is held, not only by his church and congregation, but by the principal residents and general public at Braintree and Bocking, was exemplified on the present occasion by the presentation of a purse of 150*l*., accompanied by a beautifully-framed and illuminated address on vellum. On the occasion of the jubilee of the rev. gentleman's ministry in 1852, upwards of 1,000*l*. was subscribed as a testimonial, and at his own specific request applied, not to his own private use, as intended by his people, but, characteristically, to the supply of a long-felt want in connection with the cause, in the shape of the erection of the present commodious schoolrooms and offices. This act of noble disinterestedness and self-denial has not been unappreciated. The proceedings of the evening commenced with a public tea, which was attended by about 400 persons; the number being subsequently swelled to upwards of 500. At the public meeting which followed, the Rev. T. Craig occupied the chair, supported by the Rev. S. Clarkson, co-pastor; and amongst those present were G. Courtauld, S. W. Savill, E. G. Craig, S. Tabor, J. D. Burder, J. T. bor, and W. F. Brown, Esqrs.; Messrs. F. B. Crittall, J. Sadler, J. Brown, W. Theobald, E. Joselyne, C. Rushbrooke, C. Joselyne, E. West, G. Laver, C. Hulam, J. Joselyne, J. E. Andrews, E. B. Eve, Messent, &c. The presentation was made by Mr. J. F. Shearcroft, a deacon of the church, and was acknowledged by Mr. Craig in a few affecting words. He said he was completely taken by surprise. The Rev. S. Clarkson congratulated Mr. Craig most heartily on the proof he had received of the unmistakable esteem and affection in which he was held by the flock over which he had for so many years presided. Mr. George Courtauld said he was not a member of Mr. Craig's church, but a member of a family which had listened to Mr. Craig's ministrations from yonder pulpit for four generations. There was no man whom they knew for whom they entertained a higher regard, a greater esteem, or a truer friendship. (Cheers.) Mr. E. G. Craig expressed the great gratification which had been afforded himself and other members of his family to find his father spared to be present on this occasion, and to receive from them such substantial proof of their continued regard and affection. Mr. J. D. Burder, Mr. E. Joselyne, and Mr. Eve also addressed the meeting in appropriate speeches; the interesting meeting being closed with the benediction.

RUSHOLME CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—The new church erected for Congregational worship at Rusholme was opened on Thursday afternoon with the performance of Divine service. There was a very large attendance. The lessons were read by the Rev. R. M. Davies, of Oldham; and the sermon was preached by the Rev. Henry Allon, of London. The rev. gentleman selected as his text the first chapter of John, 4th verse; and delivered a very able discourse upon the divinity of Christ, and the supernatural inspiration of the apostolic writers. The minister afterwards appealed to the congregation to assist, by the liberality of their contributions, in liquidating the debt of 1,374*l*. which still remained upon the building, the total cost of which was 4,500*l*. The collection amounted to 56*l*. The style of the building is Gothic, only in place of the usual pointed form, the round arch has been substituted. The site is very public. It is intended to have an excellent illuminated clock, which, from the tower, will be well seen from a considerable distance, and no doubt prove a great convenience to the inhabitants of the entire district. Behind the church are the schools, approached from Steyn-street, and materially assisting the effect of the building as seen from the main road. The school consists of one large room on the first floor, 48ft. by 24ft., well lighted and lofty, and seven class rooms. The large room communicates directly with one of the galleries of the church. A tea-meeting was held in the evening at the Rusholme Public-hall, presided over by Mr. Henry Lee. There were about 300 persons present. The tables were ornamented with several choice bouquets and vases of flowers, which presented a most pleasing appearance. When tea was over, the secretary, Mr. Norbury, read an interesting report, giving a brief outline of the history of Nonconformity in Rusholme, which had not inaptly been selected as a place in which to erect a memorial church commemorative of the bicentenary movement, the history of Congregationalism at Rusholme dating back as far as the year 1646. The want of a suitable building had long been felt; and a grant of 1,000*l*. having been promised for the bicentenary fund, it was resolved to undertake the erection of the chapel just completed. The windows had been given by Sir James Watts and two other friends of the church. After a few remarks from the chairman, the meeting was addressed by Mr. George

Hadfield, M.P. He said the building committee deserved the heartiest thanks for the efforts they had made to erect a new church. Formerly a ban was put on evangelical effort and freedom of thought; but the persecuted sects preserved their loyalty to the Crown; and he had no hesitation in saying that, had it not been for their fidelity, the throne would not have continued in the possession of the present family. The attempts made, however, to deprive them of religious liberty had produced beneficial results. The Nonconformists had increased in strength and power; and he believed as a body they now outnumbered those attached to the Established Church. He exhorted the friends of Congregationalism to make a determined effort to wipe off the debt remaining on the building, and an especial appeal should be made to the middle classes for help. The chapel was one of thirty memorial chapels, now being or about to be erected in the county. There was no luxury so great as that of doing good; and as he sympathised most cordially with the work so successfully achieved by the committee, he thought the best way to mark his appreciation of the value of their labours, and of helping them to get rid of the debt, was to give them 100*l.* towards it. (Much applause.) And he hoped that other gentlemen would follow his example. (Hear, hear.) The resolution was adopted; and the meeting was subsequently addressed by the Rev. P. Thompson, Councillor Clowes, S. Watts, Mr. Booth, and others; and the proceedings terminated by a vote of thanks to the chairman.

ABERDEEN.—The annual meetings of the Aberdeen and Banffshire Association of Congregational Churches were held on Tuesday and Wednesday last week, in the Congregational chapel, Woodside, Aberdeen. There was a very full attendance of the ministers of the association at all the meetings. On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Robbie, of Fraserburgh, read a thoughtful essay to a meeting of the ministers, on "The Rhetoric of the Pulpit," pointing out authority, simplicity, naturalness, and persuasiveness, as elements of power in preaching. In the evening the Rev. Mr. Saunders, of Millseat, preached the annual sermon, taking for his text 2 Cor. ii. 15—16. On Wednesday morning a general prayer-meeting was held, and was followed by a conference, over which the Rev. D. Arthur presided. The subject of conference was, "The resources of our churches in aiding each other in the prosecution of the work of Christ in their respective fields." The Rev. J. Johnston, of Pitsligo, introduced the subject, and spoke at some length on the church's field of labour and the best way to cultivate it. They had their union embracing the whole of the churches of the nation, and their local union, and he thought that there might be district unions organised, and meetings frequently held, so as to make the system of intercourse and the facilities for mutual aid amongst the individual churches greater than it is. This had been done in the district in which he was situated. The Rev. A. Galbraith, of Smartfield, dwelt upon the value of associated co-operation, and suggested the appointment of an itinerating agent for stimulating the cause in the country districts, and giving occasional relief to the ministers, by supplying for them, and allowing them to do evangelistic work. Mr. Millar, Inverary, spoke shortly upon the drawing out of the pecuniary resources of the churches, and the duty of freely giving by those who had freely received. Mr. Rennie, Culsalmond, and Mr. Smith, Peterhead, also made a few remarks. A meeting, which took the form of a *soirée*, was held in the evening, Mr. Strachan in the chair. After tea and devotional exercises, Mr. Duncan, the secretary of the association, read the annual report, and the reports of the operations of individual ministers. Mr. Arthur, the treasurer, read the financial report. Mr. Nicoll, Rhynie, then gave an address on the guilt and danger of those who hear the Gospel, but who do not receive it. Mr. Troup, Huntly, spoke on the dignity of Christian character, pointing out the dignity of mind and soul, and the loftiness of moral character, that distinguishes the Christian life. Mr. Murker, Banff, gave an address on the importance of Christians being fully consecrated to the cause of Christ. After singing and prayer the benediction was pronounced, and the meeting separated at an early hour.

HEADINGLEY-HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—**LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE.**—The foundation stone of a new Congregational church for the district of Headingley was laid on Saturday, in the presence of a large assembly. An admirable site has been selected for the proposed building. It is situated between Woodhouse Moor and Headingley, at the bottom of Cumberland-street, and possesses a frontage to Headingley-lane. The church, which is to be in the Gothic style of architecture, with spire, will accommodate 800 persons, and schoolrooms, class-rooms, deacons' and minister's vestry, residence for the church-keeper, &c., are also to be provided. The contracts have been let for 4300*l.*, but to this must be added the cost of the land, of the boundary wall, of the organ, &c., which will bring the total expenditure to about 6,000*l.* Upwards of 3,000*l.* have already been subscribed, principally by the more influential residents in the district, and the hope is confidently entertained that the church will be opened free from debt. The foundation-stone was laid by Mr. W. Scholefield, chairman of the building committee. The Rev. E. R. Conder having offered up a suitable prayer, a bottle containing copies of the *Leeds Mercury*, *Nonconformist* and *Patriot* newspapers, *Our Churches* for October, and a document setting forth the origin of the church, and containing a list of the committee and subscribers to it, was placed in a cavity prepared in the stone for its reception.—Mr. Conyers presented, on behalf of the committee, a mallet and silver trowel

to Mr. Scholefield, with which that gentleman laid the stone in the usual manner. He then briefly explained the reasons which had led to the decision to erect a church there. Mr. Scholefield concluded by stating that the new church was not built in sectarian rivalry, or with a proselytising spirit, but to supply an undoubted want.—The Rev. W. Thomas explained the principles and doctrines which would be taught in the new church when it was completed, and said they rejoiced that it was not the offspring of strife or dissension.—The Rev. G. W. Conder then briefly addressed the assembly. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the gentlemen and ladies who were present adjourned to the Wesleyan schoolroom (kindly lent for the occasion), where a collation had been provided by the committee. Mr. John Crossley, of Halifax, was in the chair. He expressed his regret that he had not been able to be present at the stone-laying. During the last eleven years he had been connected with the Congregational Chapel-building Society, which had assisted in the building of 200 places of worship in various parts of the country. This had been done for comparatively little, the society having expended 50,000*l.*, whilst the money expended altogether had been considerably over 300,000*l.* (Applause.)—Mr. Baines, M.P., observed that there were two things especially interesting in that assemblage—one was, that they had amongst them, supporting this movement, the ministers of those churches who were likely to lose some of their most valued members; and the other was, that they were met in a building belonging to another body, and built by a gentleman (Mr. Joy) who had been doing for his denomination what Mr. Crossley had done for his. (Applause.) He admitted that the Wesleyans and the Church of England almost shamed them by their noble examples, but he might say for the Congregational churches of Leeds, that within his own recollection nearly all their places of worship had been enlarged, at a cost of many thousand pounds; and a few weeks ago they laid the foundation of a new Congregational church at Beeston.—The Chairman suggested that the new churches at Beeston and Headingley might be to some extent identified with some of the mother churches, and that the ministers should interchange more frequently than they now do.—The Rev. Mr. Churchill, on behalf of himself and the trustees of the Headingley Chapel, expressed the pleasure with which they had granted the use of the schoolroom. He then urged the importance of the creation of new centres of religious teaching, contending that this could not be done so effectually by the erection of large places of worship as by similar ones in different localities, and said he would never build a chapel which would accommodate more than 800 or 1,000 people. (Hear.)—The Rev. E. R. Conder having addressed the meeting, Mr. W. H. Conyers made a statement as to the finances, and apologised for the absence of Mr. Scholefield, who was indisposed.—The Rev. J. H. Wilson also addressed the meeting, which was then brought to a close.

Correspondence.

THE POLICY OF NONCONFORMIST ELECTORS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Will you accept of my thanks for your very discriminating article on the petition recently adopted by the Baptist Union, and grant me a little space for explanation?

One part of our project, namely, a deputation to the Congregational Union, failed, owing, it seems, to a law of that Union which forbids the introduction of such a deputation, without longer notice than there was time to give.

If the existing House of Commons meet again for business, our petition will of course be then presented; and, should the eminent senator who will be requested to take charge of it, consent to move that it be printed with the Votes, our first movement in Parliament will certainly not fail from any want of power in him who has the conduct of it. And should we thus succeed in placing before the legislature and the country our testimony for God, we shall so far have attained the answer of a good conscience, whether our testimony be heeded or not.

A general election is sure, at latest, to follow the next Parliamentary session. If it be safe to judge from the reception of the petition by the large meeting at Birmingham, without one expression of dissent or doubt—if it be safe to draw an inference from the unanimous determination of that assembly to push the project, by means of deputations, beyond the purpose of the mover—there must be a thorough preparedness on the part of devout Dissenting electors to make candidates understand, that the sole headship of the Lord Jesus Christ in His churches is a truth to be no longer slighted. Readily may it be imagined that in many a place some such colloquy as the following should result from the Birmingham Petition:—

Elector: Though, Sir, it would have been satisfactory to me, had your views of civil policy been somewhat more advanced, yet, wishing to unite with my neighbours, I shall be happy to give you my feeble support heartily, if you can satisfy me on one other point. Do you propose going to the House of Commons to make laws for my religion?

Candidate: Certainly not; I glory in the full toleration of all religious opinions.

Elector: But, Sir, I presume that what is national, in

some way includes me. Suffer me, therefore, to vary the question. Do you propose to go to the House of Commons to legislate for the national religion?

Candidate: Well, you know the "Established Church" is part of the constitution.

Elector: It is, and part of the constitution of Italy and Spain, and Russia, and France, and in my opinion one of the most injurious of all errors, and treason against Him who claims in matters of religious faith and practice to be Lord alone. You must forgive me, Sir, for asking whether in the sight of God you deem yourself authorised to legislate for the religious faith and practice of a nation, or even of a single human being.

Candidate: Do you then expect me to aim at the destruction of that Establishment of which I am a member?

Elector: With your views, I cannot expect any promise to that effect; nor ought you, I think, to expect me to help in sending you to the House of Commons, avowedly to support a system which seems to me an invasion of "the crown rights of the Lord Jesus Christ," and immeasurably injurious to mankind.

Candidate: Are you not bringing us both to a dead lock?

Elector: I think not. The question is to me of far greater importance and far deeper interest than any existing question of party politics. I stand not alone. The members of Established Churches in this United Kingdom are a minority, a small minority. Dissenters have therefore the right to ask that the whole question of National Ecclesiastical Establishments should be subjected to inquiry. If they be wrong, inquiry will help to show it. Will you, Sir, go to Parliament favourable to such inquiry?

Candidate: No. I will reconsider the subject; but my present opinions would lead me to oppose such inquiry.

Elector: I am obliged by your candour, and feel bound with equal frankness to say that, if such be your final decision, I shall certainly withhold my support.

Candidate: I admit to you that the subject is one I had not well considered. I see the distinction you draw. You would do me the honour of entrusting me with legislative power in things civil; but you deem it wrong in the sight of God to give me power over things religious; and I must admit that it seems strange that man should ever have assumed the latter.

Elector: Good morning, Sir.

Mr. Editor, it would be rash in me to pretend to say how far such ground will be taken by Nonconformists; but the Birmingham meeting gives me hope that it will be found practicable and wise to take it in so many places, as to forbid the ignoring of inquiry by "the Liberal party."

When another House of Commons is chosen, what is to be done? To ask any member to move, on his own responsibility, for the inquiry desired, would be unreasonable. The first step must be taken by the people. The time for petitions will have come; petitions such, and so many as will secure, as they always have done, the respectful attention of the Government and the House of Commons; and if, as is very possible, the Whigs should not be then in office, we may fairly anticipate some thoroughly outspoken opinions from some of the Opposition. Surely there are and will be men in the House who, backed by thousands of weighty petitions, will be both able and willing to move for inquiry. This will compel reply. The supporters of the Establishment must speak and argue, and so bad is their cause, that they cannot take up any position of defence that does not expose their weakness, or even lead to their utter defeat. The Scotch clergy, as an eminent member of the seceding host told me, galled by the attack of Wardlaw and his coadjutors, were driven for shelter to the principle of the spiritual independence of the Kirk, which principle they asserted with a vehemence that forbade them to forego it. They soon found that the position was one ruinous to the Establishment. Will the opponents of inquiry say that it is not needed because the Episcopal Establishment is evidently sound in the faith, and a bond of unity? Will they plead that they are manifestly the right people to take charge of the consciences of men? Will they say that Dissenters have nothing to do with the doctrines of the Prayer-book or the government of the clergy, or the five millions a-year spent on them; and so ignore the nationality of the Establishment, and instead of saying the Church of England, say, the Church of some of the people of England? It matters not, Mr. Editor, what line of defence they adopt; only get them to talk, and the truth must become apparent.

The course adopted at Birmingham was recommended because it does not interfere with any previously existing movement. If a candidate at an election were to say that to please me he should support a motion for inquiry about the necessity for which he was doubtful, and that therefore he should not vote against Church-rates which he believed to be unjust to Dissenters, and an encumbrance to the Establishment, I should not think him very logical.

If, however, the assertion of our great religious principle were to place in temporary abeyance the struggle about Church-rates and Endowed Schools, I am prepared for the result. The solemn truth of which Nonconformists are the chosen witnesses—"My kingdom is not of this world"—we have not carried to the hearts or even the apprehension of our opponents. The very men on whom we have relied to abolish Church-rates,

have for the most part declared that their object was to strengthen the Establishment; so throwing reproach on our principles, while professing to relieve us from what we have curiously designated a "practical grievance." Religious men are dissatisfied with this roundabout course, and yearning for the opportunity of quitting themselves like men by the plainest assertion of "the crown rights" of their Redeemer. Such were the views, and such the spirit of consecration, which almost thirty years ago took the enlightened Dr. Wardlaw to London with a petition for "the separation of Church and State," to which eighteen thousand signatures were attached; such was the spirit which in Scotland swelled the tide of religious feeling till it swept away all its barriers; and such the spirit which in the spring of the year 1844 drew into hearty co-operation Wardlaw, and Young, and Sturge, and Mursell, and Price, and Baines, and Brock, and Burnet, and Campbell, and others nearly eight hundred in number, in the formation of the Anti-State Church Society. Comparing that day to this, Mr. Editor, I could almost weep as on the day of Ezra did the "ancient men" who had worshipped in the temple of Solomon. We are weary of being sappers and miners. Our health suffers by burrowing underground. We want to move in broad daylight, and under a flag on which our great principle and the name of our Lord are written in large characters of light; and the more so because while truth is the rule of our duty, the signs of the times give us hope that "the day of Christ" is at hand.

In conclusion, let me say, that the spirit and wishes of the Birmingham petitioners cannot be better expressed, than in one of the paragraphs asserting that the object of the Anti-State Church Society was—

"The removal of the question of national religious establishments as much as possible from under the influence of party feeling; the placing it on the ground of what is due to pure and undefiled religion, and to the best interests, temporal and spiritual, of the people; and the enlistment of the sincerely religious of all classes of the community by energetic appeals to conscience."

I am, Mr. Editor, yours in the hope of that kingdom which is not of this world.

WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Cambridge, Oct. 24, 1864.

P.S. May I once again suggest that the question of Church-rates should be settled by putting a clergyman or two zealous in their enforcement, at the bar of a court of justice for neglecting four-fifths of the duties for which the building exists, in short—by saying to them, "Ye have appealed to Cæsar, to Cæsar shall ye go?"

THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Is it not remarkable that while some of the borough constituencies, generally regarded as the vigilant guardians of liberty against a Conservative landed interest and a reactionary clergy, are betraying the cause of religious equality by their apathy, the Liberals in some of our counties are shaming them by their greater zeal and steadfastness? Do the Liberals of Exeter city need to be reminded that the battle of Church-rate abolition, in which they declined to take part, was fought vigorously and almost with success last spring in so Tory a county as Herts? Are the Dissenters of Halifax content to be outdone by the freeholders of South Durham? This constituency, it will be remembered, is already represented by Mr. Henry Pease, who by creed as well as conviction is an opponent of the State Church. With him is to be brought forward at the next election another Liberal, in the person of Captain Frederick Blackett Beaumont. His address now lies before me, and his allusion to the Church-rate question is well worthy of attention. Captain Beaumont admits that he has no "theoretical" objection to a compromise, but "thinking that such a course is impracticable, and believing that the true strength of the Church of England is to be found in the affections of the people, and that its efficiency does not depend on the pittance to be derived from the rate," he will "not allow any specious proposal to interfere with his vote for abolition." I think Capt. Beaumont deserves credit for his candour, and for throwing upon Churchmen the burden of proof for maintaining the exaction in any shape. He does not favour any such "compromise" as Mr. Coleridge advocates, well knowing that it is "impracticable," and that the support of any compromise means the retention of the grievance intact. This is the genuine reading of recent Parliamentary experience, and the candidate for South Durham will be no party to any attempt to hoodwink Dissenters on the subject. Mr. Beaumont goes for the principle of Religious Equality. He would open state endowments for secular education, such as grammar schools, "to all denominations." He would support a bill for the abolition of University Tests.

This, I think, is a tolerably liberal ecclesiastical creed for a county candidate. It would be a relief to know that all candidates for borough constituencies, or even for large town populations, were up to this mark. If they are not, it is the fault, not of the candidates themselves, but of Nonconformist electors connected with them, who are ashamed of their own principles, and allow themselves to be deluded by electioneering wire-

pullers, and their accepted creed to be recast by political adventurers who seek their suffrages.

I am, yours, &c.,

RELIGIOUS EQUALITY.

Oct. 24, 1864.

PSALMODY AND COLLEGE EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—There is so much to be done in the improvement of our congregational psalmody, and there are comparatively so few to do it, that the bandying of disparaging words and contemptuous epithets should be as unpleasant to an earnest Christian worker as it is certainly useless. I do not think that Mr. Waite has gained anything for his own views by saying, "As for Tonic Solfa, I leave that for children to play with." Nor do I think that he will make any way with the students by warning them so earnestly to place themselves "beyond the danger of being laughed at by intelligent musicians as persons fond of musical twaddle, and content with the sensational instead of the intellectual pleasures of true music." The work of musical reform in psalmody is so great, that it cannot possibly be accomplished by any one man or any one tune-book, or even by any one method of teaching to sing. Those who are agreed in the one object of seeking to obtain a full and facile part-song of the people in public worship, have need to work together as brothers, thinking lightly of differences, each man contributing what he can, and as best he can, so that the long and difficult task may at last be accomplished. I rejoice in the work of Mr. Waite so far as it goes. In public lectures in all parts of the kingdom, I have referred to his labours with cordial appreciation; but as Mr. Waite has spoken differently of the Tonic Solfa method, with which I am connected, I hope you will allow me space to correct some false impressions which his letter is likely to produce.

1st. The words which I have above quoted would give the impression that the Tonic Solfa method is not recognised by "intelligent musicians," and that it is an insignificant thing, worthy only to be played with by children. I have ample testimonies in private letters to overthrow Mr. Waite's theory on the subject. But it will be enough to say that the *Times* newspaper does not employ non-intelligent musicians to write its critical articles on Crystal Palace concerts; and yet the *Times* has recently said of the Tonic Solfa method that it is "the only national and popular system of teaching music which is worthy of the name." And the *Daily News*, whose musical critic has long established a well-earned fame, says under the same date, "They are now making the most successful attempt ever yet made in this country to popularise vocal music, by bringing its knowledge and practice within the reach of all classes of the people; and their success is mainly owing to their adoption of a method of musical notation, which, from its simplicity, is learned with comparative ease even by children; while, as it requires no new characters, nor the use of any peculiar kind of paper, it is cheap to a degree hitherto unprecedented. Hence it is superseding all other modes of popular instruction. A whole library of Tonic Solfa publications is in the course of being formed, and the Tonic Solfa schools number thousands of pupils in every part of the United Kingdom, and in our colonies and dependencies throughout the world." Neither will Mr. Waite persuade the students of our colleges that the *British Quarterly Review* has employed some gentlemen of dim intelligence and feeble powers to write its articles on Mendelssohn's works and on other musical subjects,—and yet this gentleman (then quite unknown to me), in an elaborate review of Psalmody, has pointed to our method as "the Church's instrument" for promoting the service of song. By means of this "plaything for children," as Mr. Waite calls it, we have written down, and sung, in various parts of the country, all the voice parts in Handel's "Messiah," "Israel in Egypt," "Judas Macabæus," and "Dettingen Te Deum," in Haydn's "Creation" and "Spring," in Mendelssohn's "St. Paul," and "As the Heart Pants," in Bach's fifth Motet, in Mozart's twelfth service, and in Romberg's "Song of the Bell." This "plaything for children" has enabled us to teach already two hundred and twenty pupils how to analyse the harmonies of these great composers, and is beginning to teach us, more easily than we could learn before, how to use the organ, the harmonium, the piano-forte, the brass instruments, the reeds, and the violins. If I may venture to refer to my own experience, it is that from the beginning of my acquaintance with the principles of Miss Glover's teaching, the more "intelligent" I have grown in musical matters, the more confident I have become in the truth and usefulness of her great discovery.

2nd. Mr. Waite's reference to the seven psalm tune-books "and all the other books printed by his steam-press in the room formerly used as the old chapel at Plaistow," may produce the impression that the Tonic Solfa movement is a personal thing. But it so happens that not one of the seven psalm tune-books referred to are mine. I may also say that while I have been issuing during the past year only one dozen and a half of musical publications, other publishers in England and in Scotland have issued four dozen! Our Tonic Solfa literature has at last reached the field of public and open competition, and this, although it may be a passing difficulty to me, is the greatest triumph which our movement has yet attained. Moreover, I think it no dishonour to an old chapel, out of which there has already sprung a large new chapel, and which has originated a fund for ample new schoolrooms, that it should be occupied as a printing-office. Even a steam-press is not unworthy of an old chapel if it can be nobly used. But I am glad to think that this is only one of many Tonic Solfa printing presses.

3rd. Mr. Waite's constantly placing our method in opposition to the established notation will naturally lead to the inference that we do not teach that notation. Mr. Waite must be ignorant that our principal manuals contain careful introductions to that notation; that in our Crystal Palace and Exeter Hall competitions, we have always introduced sight-singing tests in that notation, and that many members of Mr. Costa's and Mr. Henry Leslie's choirs, and of the great Bradford, Manchester, Glasgow, and Birmingham choral societies, singing from the established notation constantly, are Tonic Solfa pupils. I have no reason to believe that any system of teaching singing in England—Mr. Waite's figure notation included—is at the

present time making so many sight-singers from the established notation, as the Tonic Solfa method. But it cannot be too widely understood that in doing this work we do another also, which is far more important to psalmody. For every one sight-singer in the established notation we make three or four in the new. And it is for this seventy-five per cent. of our sight-singers that I plead. They have not time to go on to the old notation; they have not perseverance to master its perplexing difficulties. They cannot afford to buy its expensive books; or, as they only want to sing plain psalm-tunes, they do not see why they should be troubled with it. I plead for them that every psalm tune-book should be translated into their simple language, and that they should be allowed to take part in the service of song.

4th. Mr. Waite gives two paragraphs of strong denunciation to the degrees marked on our modulator, and this gives the impression that we regard those degrees as an essential, or at least, as an important part of practical teaching. But this is an entire mistake. I added the degrees to Miss Glover's "musical ladder," in order to represent in a popular manner an interesting philosophical fact. I was content to take Sir John Herschel and General Thompson for my authorities; I knew well enough that if we can get the sounds right it matters but little how the mathematicians measure them. As for Mr. Waite's own deep discoveries in the science of the scale, of which he so often speaks, why does he not unfold them? Until he does so, I shall remain satisfied with the authorities above mentioned.

More than twenty-one years ago (when I first took hold of Miss Glover's method as the Church's instrument for Psalmody) I entreated Mr. Waite to let me print his "Hallelujah" in the Tonic Solfa Notation, offering to take all the risk, and to hand him all the profits. He took a night to consider, and then answered me in the morning, that he "would not have his name connected with a thing so childish." Mr. Waite—the child has become a man.

I am, Sir, truly yours,

JOHN CURWEN.

THE BIBLE AND THE PAPAL TERRITORIES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—We have been so often told in England, and by some in high authority, that Protestants were in error in supposing there was any objection on the part of Rome to the circulation of the Word of God, that I am not sorry to have had the truth or otherwise of the assertion tested at head-quarters, as the following recent fact will show.

On Saturday, the 1st inst., I crossed the Italian frontiers, returning from Naples, and entered the Papal dominions at Ceperano, the first Roman station, where all passengers' luggage is searched. The officials extracted from my valise an Italian New Testament, which they retained, telling me that it was *libro proibito*, and that if I wished it restored, I must apply at the police-office in Rome. I did so two days afterwards, when I saw one of the principals in the *ufficio*, who told me the book had not arrived, and I was again reminded that it was not allowed to pass in Rome, where, assuredly, I saw enough to account for the persistent hostility to the least inlet of Divine truth among a people governed by a priesthood whose yoke has become intolerable.

I have thought it right in the cause of that truth to which we are so greatly indebted in my own country, and which is being cordially welcomed throughout free Italy, to address the following letter to the Prime Minister in Rome. Soliciting a space in your columns, I remain, your obedient servant,

JAMES DAVIS.

Milan, Oct. 10, 1864.

Monsignore.—On Saturday, Oct. 1st, coming from Naples by railway, when I crossed into the Roman States, my luggage was searched, and the official took from me an Italian New Testament (Diodati's translation, and without notes), which I had purchased at Naples. I had written the date and place of purchase on the first page; of course, therefore, it was for my own private use. I was told to apply to the police-office at Rome. On doing so the second day after my arrival, and sending my card, inquiry was made, but I was unsuccessful; my book remains still in the possession of the police.

Protesting, as I must be allowed to do, against this violation of my right to read God's Word in Italian, or any other language I choose, at Rome, or in any other part of the world,—protesting, more strongly still, against the insult offered to Almighty God in committing to the custody of the police, as obnoxious and criminal, that blessed Book which His Holy Spirit inspired for the instruction, consolation, and guidance of mankind, I must respectfully demand its restoration, nor will this act appear in the eyes of many less guilty than that of former times when the Redeemer Himself was committed into the hands of the Roman guard. With less excuse, you commit His own word to the ignominy of Roman police.

My name and address will afford you the opportunity of repairing the wrong.

I have the honour to remain, &c.,

JAMES DAVIS.

October 8th, 1864.

THE DISSENTING MARRIAGE ACTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—The non-Church Marriage Laws were intended to place all parties upon the same footing as to the legal pre-requisites for marriage—but they did not do so; for the notice to a registrar requires that the applicants shall declare in writing, with witnesses, under the penalties of perjury for falsification, their rank or profession; whether either is a minor; and if so, the name and consent of the father or guardian; and whether they are spinsters or widows, bachelors or widowers; and the length of their residence in their present abode; and whether they know of any impediment of kindred or alliance, or other lawful hindrance to their marriage: whereas none of these particulars are demandable for banns.

The result of all this may be shown by a single instance. Mr. Arnold, in his book on the cotton manufactures, says that the evidence of the census returns shows that from fifteen to twenty is the age at which a large number of the male, and a still larger number of the female, operatives are married; and he adds that at Manchester Cathedral the congregation are obliged to listen to a banns-roll of some hundreds of persons, of whom it is not pretended that a very large number are not minors of tender age, and not one of whom has been required to make the same declarations as for registered notices. The clergy have no legal power to propound those questions, whereas the registrars are

obliged by law to enforce them. Therefore boys and girls resort to the Cathedral, not because they hold Church principles, but because they wish to be married, and the registrars repel them. The registered forms are needlessly and vexatiously complicated and burdensome.

The system is odious to all parties. Churchmen do not wish to promote surreptitious marriages, or to be placed in the invidious position of seeming to encourage them for the sake of filthy lucre. Nonconformists say that their marriages have not fair play, one of the statistical scales being extraneously weighted. Those who hold that all restriction upon persons at the age of puberty in forming matrimonial connections are wrong, yet add, that if the Quaker Meeting is to be guarded by such declarations as those required by the registrar, the young Quaker ought not to be tempted to the Cathedral by their absence.

Yours, &c.,
EQUALITY.

LORD STANLEY AT KING'S LYNN.

Lord Stanley addressed his constituents at Lynn on Wednesday. He said the calm state of this country during the last four or five years had been owing to great material prosperity, absence in general of distress (with one notable exception), a belief that any measure really called for by public opinion would be passed, the removal of nearly all the old grievances, and a kind of political scepticism fostered by the condition of France and America. He did not expect that absolute calm to continue, nor that we should return to the excited condition of the public mind from 1830 to the Crimean war. Political institutions were a means to an end, and if peace was kept abroad, life and property protected at home, the revenues fairly collected and economically spent, and individual freedom secured, as far as was consistent with the rights of others, the State had discharged its principal functions, and it was the duty of both Liberals and Conservatives to watch that it did not exceed this, as all continental Governments did. In the debate on Danish affairs last July he said his object and that of others was to obtain from Parliament a decided expression of opinion in favour of non-intervention in continental disputes. In that they perfectly succeeded, and he believed the feeling of the country went the same way, and that debate would mark the beginning of a new epoch in British diplomacy. He did not mean that England should never give advice nor express opinions upon foreign questions, but this should be done without menace or its semblance to one party, or holding out false hopes of forcible assistance to the other. As to the American war, he still advocated absolute neutrality, and he saw no prospect of its early close. The North would probably overrun the whole Southern territory, but then their political difficulties would begin. He doubted whether, setting against the cotton famine the opening of new markets and the gain to India, we had on the whole been serious losers by that war. In Italy it was impossible to doubt that Rome or the Roman territory would pass into the hands of the Italian Government at no distant day, though we in England could scarcely understand the extreme importance attached to it. Accepting Italy as a fact, and wishing well to its people and Government, he hoped they would adopt the policy of peace rather than seek to extend their frontiers at the cost of national bankruptcy, or paying for foreign aid as they had done before. The clumsy scheme of German Federation had in practice broken down, and the smaller States must either unite amongst themselves for mutual protection (in which case they would be greatly dependent on France), or ally themselves to Austria and Prussia respectively, for diplomatic and military purposes. The latter was most likely to be the result, and he hoped England would not interfere, even by advice, to prevent it. The sooner these petty German sovereignties disappeared from the map of Europe the better. In the East he believed the breaking up of the Turkish Empire to be only a question of time, and he could not understand the determination of our older statesmen to stand by Turkish rule, whether right or wrong. He thought the tendency to union in some shape amongst our American and our Australian colonies ought to be encouraged, and that transportation to Australia should be once discontinued. At home, our financial position was so thoroughly sound, that the only fear was it might be too good to last; but we were apt to attribute this too much to legislation and too little to the natural progress of the country. We must dismiss, however, all hope of returning to an expenditure of less than 60,000,000*l.*, though in certain items considerable reduction might be made. He referred to the excessive costliness of our dockyards; and although we might knock off from a million to a million and a-half from the navy estimates without injury to the service, it was time to tell our colonists in New Zealand and elsewhere that they must fight their own battles in future. The outlay on the African settlements and squadron also needed inquiry. The position of Canada was exceptional and perplexing, but military assistance to these colonies should be dependent on their doing more than hitherto towards their own defence. He did not anticipate or see an opening for saving in our civil expenditure, therefore any economical reform of importance must be in our military and naval departments. We might hope for a reduction of two millions or more, and if our prosperity continued uninterrupted, a relief from taxation in the next four years of six or seven millions. Our worst tax, without exception, was that on fire insurance, but its total abolition was not necessary—a tax of sixpence per cent. would be harmless, and in a few years it would realise three

times as much as the present. He doubted the possibility or justice of abandoning the income-tax altogether, but advocated a tax of 3*d.* or 4*d.* in the pound. In the customs' duties there was very little left to reduce. Tea, sugar, and wine had all been dealt with, and no man for morality's sake would reduce the duty on spirits, unless it were largely evaded by smuggling. All the remaining duties were unimportant, except that on tobacco, which might wait for awhile—at least till the income-tax and insurance were dealt with. The duties on corn, fruit, and timber, and others would doubtless disappear ere long. He did not approve of a total repeal of the malt-tax, which would prevent our dealing with any other tax for several years, and diminish the revenue from spirits, and probably from tea. Indeed, he could not see how the duty on tea was to be retained if beer was to be exempt. Reduction of the malt-tax might be expected in time, but the claim was not urgent. Any surplus we have ought to be divided fairly between direct and indirect taxation; the proposal to merge all taxes in one on property was utterly impracticable and unjust—exempting three-fourths of the nation, and throwing the whole burden on the remaining fourth. It was useless to discuss the franchise until we knew whether anything respecting it was going to be done or attempted by the present Cabinet. A very small measure would not satisfy the party of action, and a large measure it was quite impossible to carry except in a state of popular feeling very different from the present. Political supremacy was now exercised, not by the upper but by the middle classes. They were not likely to part with it voluntarily, and he saw no movement on the part of the working classes that would be likely to overbear the resistance which must be expected. Parliament need not remain idle, for there was a vast amount of miscellaneous work to be done respecting the reform of our legal code, the purchase of army commissions, the questions of parish or union rating, the law of settlement, the administration of public charities, the licensing system, the Irish and Scotch marriage laws, the patent laws, the capital punishment laws, and the mode of revision of trials for capital offences, &c. Idleness was not Conservatism, and if, as he believed, the country did not desire organic change, it as little wished for lethargy and stagnation. But he never remembered a time when mere party spirit had so little life in it. The difference between moderate Conservatives and moderate Liberals was very slight; those who held extreme opinions on either side were never fewer or less influential than at present. The present Opposition might have before long their turn of power; if so, he hoped and believed they would use it wisely, but he doubted whether they would be treated with as much patience as they had shown their rivals. But it was public opinion that governed, and this was never more moderate than now as to home affairs, never more resolute as to the maintenance of peace abroad, never more willing to deal with practical and proved abuses, and never less inclined to undervalue the merits of the institutions under which we live.

MR. OSBORNE, M.P., AT LISKEARD.

Mr. Bernal Osborne, M.P., made a characteristic speech to his constituents at Liskeard on Friday. He gave a warm support to the financial policy of Mr. Gladstone. He disapproved of the Government's policy as to Poland and Schleswig-Holstein, but supported the observance of neutrality in the American war. As to home politics, he did not believe there was any immediate prospect of much movement in them. He praised Mr. Gladstone as the backbone of the Administration, avowing himself a convert to his Government Insurance Act. He attributed the inactivity of Parliament on home questions to the excitement of the public mind on foreign matters. He described the French Emperor as a man taught in the school of adversity, and as a friend of England, if only from self-interest. He accounted for his own vote on the Ashantee War, as an act due to the Duke of Newcastle, then under the blow which has sunk him to the grave, speaking of his Grace as a man whose name should never be mentioned without honour. As to Schleswig-Holstein, at the mention of which he saw some of his hearers' faces grow longer, he had gone through a course of reading which had nearly made a lunatic of him, what with blarney and bluster, hectoring and lecturing, notes minatory and monitory, and ultimatums which nobody could understand. Earl Russell (would that he were still Lord John!) was too much like a young lady in his love of correspondence. At any rate, he (Mr. Osborne) was not in the majority of eighteen which saved the Ministry, because he could not honestly vote that they had negotiated with success. Let nobody accuse him of letting in the Tories. There were but three in existence: one was Mr. Newdegate, the second Mr. Bentinck, and the third Lord Palmerston. The first speech made by Lord Palmerston was in 1809 in defence of seizing the Danish fleet at Copenhagen. And in his last he resigned Denmark to her fate. His most efficient supporters were on the Opposition benches. Why not a new combination? Why not he (Mr. Osborne) vote with Lord Stanley, the opponent of Church-rates and the advocate of reform? Why should the Liberal party be without flag or leader? Why be left in the Slough of Despond, with an exhortation to repose and thanksgiving? The Premier boasted of his colleagues, some of whom were very able men, but others, had they not rank to make up for lack of talent, would have to blow

the church-organ bellows for a living. The Whigs were like the parrot for which the lady gave four hundred pounds because he had acquired the knack of saying, "The Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the Bill"; but which, becoming speechless in her parlour, was excused by the former owner as being "a devil to think." Point him to one great measure that had the name of Palmerston attached to it.

THE LOSS OF THE MISSIONARY SHIP JOHN WILLIAMS.

This useful vessel, for eighteen years the unfailing auxiliary to mission work in the Antipodes, has, as we stated last week, at length come to grief, having been totally wrecked off an island in the South Pacific, ominously called Danger Island. Captain Williams, who was in command at the time, and who, indeed, has been in command since her launch, reports that he was delayed in the vicinity of the island for some days through very light winds and calms. On the morning of the 16th of May, finding the current gradually taking her towards the land, and there not being sufficient wind to beat off, the long-boat was got out and endeavours to turn her by rowing were attempted, but they were unavailing. Despite their efforts she drifted on to a reef and struck heavily. She continued for some time striking heavily, unshipping her rudder and tearing off the rudder trunk, the drawback frequently taking her off the reef, but only to strike with renewed violence at each returning swell of the sea; and while striking heavily ast, her bows were in fifty fathoms of water. All attempts to get her off were hopeless almost from the beginning; and getting the boats alongside, and providing themselves with a chronometer, sextant, three compasses, and a few charts, the crew, nineteen in number, and passengers (twenty-two) abandoned her. They headed for the nearest land, distant about three miles; but night coming on, they were forced to lay to till daylight. Two of the crew, natives, volunteered to, and did, swim on shore for assistance. In the morning canoes came and landed the passengers, the crew, with assistance from the shore, returning to the wreck to save as much as possible. She had "heeled over" considerably, and was rolling so heavily that it was with difficulty they could board her. After cutting away the masts, her rolling was much reduced, and the boats were got alongside to load. About 80 or 90 pounds of sugar and 100 pounds of coffee, some sails, &c., were all they managed to get off, as she settled down by the head so rapidly that they had to quit the wreck—not many minutes too soon, for in about five minutes after they had pushed off she slipped off the reef and disappeared. Some few things that came to the surface were picked up, and the boats rowed in shore again, where they landed safely. Much kindness was experienced from the natives, who rendered the poor passengers every assistance. On the 17th the crew were busy preparing the long-boat for a voyage to Samoa, whence the first officer with six of the crew were proceeding for the assistance of her Majesty's consul. Having got all ready, they went to sea at noon on the 23rd, and safely made the island of Upolo, lying in lat. 13 49 S., long. 171 44 W., and shortly afterwards landed at the village of Apia. Here they procured the services of the brig Lalla Rookh, and experienced much kindness from Mr. J. C. Williams, her Majesty's Consul there, who, before they sailed, sent on board a case of presents to the natives for their attention. Danger Island was safely reached, the presents divided into seventeen equal parts, and given to the principal men of the island in the name of the Queen of England. All hands were then embarked, and the Lalla Rookh returned to Apia, safely arriving there on the 14th of June, whence they were forwarded to Sydney. There Captain Williams was entertained to tea by the committee of the London Missionary Society, and a purse of fifty guineas collected by a few friends presented to him. He and Mrs. Williams left for England in the ship William Duthie, which left Sydney on the 20th August.

In a letter to a friend at Glasgow, Dr. Turner, the distinguished Polynesian missionary, remarking upon the kind reception of the shipwrecked crew by the natives of Danger Island, says:—"Seven years ago they would have had a very different reception. But about that time we got the Gospel introduced there by Mr. Buzacott, and now all are nominally Christian, and our shipwrecked friends found the place remarkably prepared for them." Dr. Turner adds:—

There were two missionaries on board at the time, viz., Mr. Bruff—a good old man, who has been in these seas since 1861—and Mr. Royle, of Aitutaki, who came out in 1838 with Mr. Williams. We deplore the loss of our good old ship, but what a mercy all this did not happen when we were on board, a few months ago, with the vessel crammed full of Bibles and missionary stores. She landed us all at our destination, landed all her cargo, visited the eastward out-stations, and was now on her way back to Sydney empty, with but four places to call at. She was then to take in the annual missionary supplies, and prepare for her homeward voyage. . . . With another effort of the Sunday-school children, I hope the directors will send us out a new vessel. The generation of British children will never be behind that noble band who sent out the "John Williams" twenty years ago. What a remarkable providence that at this very time the Australian children's missionary ship Day-spring has just arrived to take up the work in Western Polynesia, where so much has yet to be done. Our John Williams could not do the half which was necessary in these westward islands.

What is the best thing for a poet to compose? Himself.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen and the junior members of the Royal family are expected to arrive at Windsor Castle shortly before nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Prince Alfred arrived at Windsor Castle on Saturday night.

It is rumoured that the Prince of Wales will visit Knowsley, the seat of Earl Derby, early in November.

Viscount Palmerston attained his eightieth year on Thursday. The noble Premier and her ladyship, with a small family circle, are at Broadlands, Hants. The noble Viscount is in the enjoyment of excellent health, and was out in the afternoon for his customary equestrian exercise. His lordship was born on the 20th of October, 1784, and entered Parliament in 1806, in his twenty-second year. He has, therefore, been fifty-eight years in Parliament. Of these forty-six have been passed in office, and for seven of them he has held the post of Prime Minister.

The *Morning Post* says that the Earl of Carlisle is not in such a bad state of health as might be supposed from the occasional paragraphs which have gained circulation through the medium of some of the provincial papers. There is nothing so alarming in his malady as to cause any immediate anxiety to his friends.

It is stated that Mr. Roebuck, M.P., is so seriously indisposed as to be compelled to forego appearing in public at present.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* says there is no truth in the statement that the War Office has ordered home any of the regiments in New Zealand. General Cameron's despatches show that the war cannot yet be said to be over, although happily there is every probability that the submission of the Tauranga tribe will be followed by that of the other hostile tribes.

Miscellaneous News.

The number of patients relieved at the Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, 67, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, was 143 during the week.

THE OPENING OF SOUTHWARK-BRIDGE.—At the Court of Common Council on Thursday, the proposal made by the Southwark-bridge Company to open that bridge free to the public for six months for the sum of 1,834*l.*, and for a further period of six months for the sum of 2,750*l.*, was accepted, after a debate, by a majority of forty-two votes.

THE NATIONAL CHORAL SOCIETY.—This society held its first weekly meeting this season on Wednesday, at Exeter Hall, when nearly 400 members of the choir assembled for a rehearsal of Handel's oratorio, "Israel in Egypt." In consequence of the large number of applications to join the choir and band of the society, the list will be closed in a few days.

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL ON THE AMERICAN PRIZE-COURTS.—Sir R. P. Collier addressed his constituents at Plymouth, on Thursday, and in the course of his speech spoke favourably of the decisions of the American prize-courts, and said the American judges paid the greatest respect to the decisions of our courts and of their own, and that upon the whole the judgments had been well considered, and given with a desire to do justice. (Loud applause.)

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.—On Wednesday morning the foundation-stone of the second portion of this magnificent work was laid by Mr. Bazalgette, its chief engineer, in the presence of the chairman and members of the Board of Works. The works of this portion extend from the eastern side of Waterloo-bridge to the lower end of the Temple-gardens—a length of 1,970 feet. A pier of firm granite masonry, which will present an imposing front to the river, and very effectually break the uniformity of the river wall, is to be erected.

PURFLEET GUNPOWDER MAGAZINES.—The *Times* gives a description of the Government powder magazines at Purfleet. The quantity there is 52,000 barrels, or 2,300 tons, while at Erith the quantity which blew up was only 1,000 barrels, or less than fifty tons. The precautions and general management are admirable, and leave nothing to be desired except that the magazines were further from London. The largest store is near one of the most important seaports, and contains 4,000 tons. The article tends to show that the question of the situation of powder magazines and the modes of transport, especially in barges, require attention.

THE STATE OF LANCASHIRE.—Mr. Farnall's report, read before the Central Relief Fund Committee, held at Manchester on Monday, showed the large aggregate increase of 5,055 in the numbers parochially relieved on the 15th inst., as compared with the previous week. The increase was spread over twenty unions in the cotton manufacturing districts, but six others showed a slight diminution. As compared with the corresponding week of 1861, the increase in the number of the relieved was 55,267. As compared with the same week in 1863, the decrease is 30,708. The number of able-bodied men in the district who received relief in the week ending the 15th was 7,325, or 695 more than in the week before.

GREAT STORM IN THE NORTH.—A violent storm burst over the Caithness coast on Wednesday night, and continued to rage with increasing violence during the whole of Thursday. The sea was very heavy, and about two thirds of the staging of the new harbour works were carried away. The works themselves were also seriously damaged. On Saturday five vessels, chiefly foreign, were cast ashore at Granton, Edinburgh. The crews were saved, except one man

lost in a premature attempt to escape. A Danish vessel was wrecked near Dunbar; four lives lost. Much damage was done ashore. All along the east coast, especially off Tynemouth, the storm was very destructive.

THE NORTH LONDON INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—The hold these exhibitions have upon the working classes was fully shown on Thursday night, when the attendance was so great that at half-past eight o'clock the doors were obliged to be closed. There were 18,000 persons passed the turnstiles. During the evening a Band of Hope demonstration took place, under the management of Mr. Hosier. The orchestra was filled with upwards of 1,000 children, members of the various temperance societies in North London, who sang a number of suitable melodies and songs, commencing with "Welcome," to Rousseau's music, and concluding with "God Bless our Youthful Band." The pieces were admirably sung, and highly appreciated by the immense audience. On Monday the attendance was not less than 20,000. Yesterday 18,000 visited the exhibition.

THE LATE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE.—The *Nottingham Journal* states that the late Duke of Newcastle had during the day of his death been unusually well, and had conversed freely with his workpeople about the estate. He had also visited the stables and inspected the horses. About twenty-five minutes past six in the evening he was conversing freely with his solicitor, Mr. Ouvry, of the firm of Farrer, Ouvry, and Farrer, London, that gentleman having been to the Church Festival at Shireoaks, and his Grace had been expressing his satisfaction at the great success of the festival, when he suddenly threw up his arms, gave a scream, and died in about four minutes. His Grace's physician, Dr. Kingsley, of London, and two or three persons were present at the time. A telegram was received by Dr. Kingsley, at Clumber, from Sir George Grey, at Balmoral, on behalf of her Majesty. None of his Grace's family were at Clumber at the time of the sad event, his Grace's second son, Lord Edward Pelham Clinton, having left Clumber a week ago to join his regiment in Canada West.

FEMALE EDUCATION.—Nine hundred and ninety-nine schoolmistresses have signed a memorial to the Senate of Cambridge University, and one hundred noblemen and gentlemen, including Lords Brougham, Clarendon, Lyttelton, Wrottesley, and others, have supported its prayer. The memorial runs as follows:—

As being officially engaged in or connected with female education, we beg respectfully to call your attention to the existing want of some publicly-recognised examination for girls. We believe that this want could in no way be better supplied than by the extension to girls of the University local examinations. The representations by which the Universities were induced to accord these advantages to boys apply with at least equal force to girls, and it appears to us that no valid objection can be urged against the admission of girls to similar benefits. We venture, therefore, earnestly to request that you will be pleased to give your sanction to a measure by which the usefulness of the scheme for local examinations may be largely extended.

A Syndicate has been appointed to consider and report upon the memorial.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, MAITLAND-PARK.—Thursday, Oct. 20th, the 213th half-yearly meeting of this excellent charity was held at the London Tavern, specially for the purpose of electing thirty-five poor orphan children out of a list of 129 candidates. The proceedings were not of a formal, but of a purely business, character, and, as not unusual on such occasions, a good deal of anxiety was displayed respecting the result long before it was made known by the secretary at three o'clock. The chair was taken by Mr. J. J. Tanner, one of the vice-presidents. It will be of interest to mention that this charity has admitted nearly 2,300 children since its foundation in 1758, about 1,000 of whom were admitted during the last seventeen years, the admission latterly being seventy in each year. Children of both sexes, of all denominations, and from any part of the United Kingdom, are eligible for election. The school is situated in a commanding position near the Regent's Park. It must be a remarkably healthy location, inasmuch as the mortality averages only 1 in 69; and it is much to be regretted that, for want of funds, the vacant space for 100 more children cannot be filled up. At the present time, new infirmaries, upon the best model, are being erected, at a cost of 1,600*l.*, rendered necessary to provide for any sickness that may arise. To complete this work the committee are appealing for aid, and it is to be trusted that they will meet with a speedy success in their laudable efforts. The result of the election will be found in our advertising columns.

SURGICAL AID SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting of the governors of this society was held on Monday afternoon, at Radley's Hotel, Blackfriars, Mr. H. Maudslay in the chair. Among those present we observed William Grey, Esq., W. Allingham, Esq., W. H. Watson, Esq., George Cooke, Esq., J. E. Tresidder, Esq., and others. In opening the proceedings, the chairman testified to the great necessity that existed for the society, and the amount of good it had already conferred on the poor. In the course of his remarks he suggested that it would be well to address a letter to the Society of Arts, with the object of getting the co-operation of that society, in the way of offering rewards for cheap surgical contrivances, by means of which mechanical surgery would be facilitated, and the poor very much benefited. From the well-known character of the Society of Arts, he believed such an application would receive every attention. Mr. W. Tresidder, secretary, read the second annual report. In presenting it, the committee desired to direct special attention

to the comprehensive and national character of the society, which is not limited in its operations to any particular locality, or for the relief of any particular disease, but is intended to supply every description of surgical appliance gratuitously to the multitude of deserving poor, who, by reason of disease or accident, are enduring great pain, or are partially or entirely prevented from performing their daily labour, but who by means of the relief thus afforded may be freed from suffering and be enabled to provide for themselves and their families. The necessity for this society will be at once manifest when it is understood that, notwithstanding the many benevolent institutions of the present day, no other exists with the object of rendering aid to the thousands of the poorer classes afflicted with various distressing affections—such as varicose veins, spinal disease, and distortions generally—by supplying the necessary mechanical support. Many of the cases relieved during the past year have been recommended by the medical officers of hospitals and kindred institutions as needing appliances which they do not give, and which it is the particular office of this society to supply. During the past year 239 cases were relieved; of these 98 were men, 111 women, and 30 children (being 102 cases more than in the previous year), including persons residing in Dorset, Essex, Gloucestershire, Hants, Kent, Lancashire, Middlesex, Monmouthshire, Norfolk, Somerset, Surrey, and other parts of England, and all of whom have expressed the greatest gratitude for the assistance given, and several of whom have testified their thankfulness by afterwards contributing towards the funds. Mr. W. Gray, the treasurer, reported that there was a small increase in the amount received for annual and life subscriptions. Up to that moment the life subscriptions amounted to 110*l.* 5*s.*, and there was a working balance of 56*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* The balance-sheet showed only two quarters' secretary's salary, which the treasurer explained by stating that, on account of the struggling state of the society, the secretary had had most generously waived his right to that portion of his salary. The report and statement of accounts were unanimously adopted, and the treasurer and committee were elected for the ensuing year. After the transaction of some routine business, and a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated.

THE FREEDMAN'S AID SOCIETY.

On Wednesday evening, a public meeting was held in the theatre of the Mechanics' Institute, Bradford, to promote the object of this society, which is to afford sustenance and instruction, till settled in productive industry, of a vast number of freed slaves in the American war. The theatre was well filled. W. E. Forster, Esq., M.P., occupied the chair. The Parent Society was represented by Levi Coffin, Esq., from Cincinnati, and the Rev. J. W. Massie, LL.D., from London. The chairman in introducing the business of the evening said—

The negroes, by showing readiness to work and by fighting courageously and heroically whenever they had the opportunity, have now convinced all, who are not so prejudiced as to be blind to reason, that they are fit for freedom, since they know how to use it and to fight for it. Mr. Forster next described the success with which Mr. Philbrick cultivated a cotton plantation in the Sea Islands by means of negroes employed for wages. He had difficulties to contend with at first, for the prejudices of the Federal soldiers to the coloured refugees were strong, and so were the suspicions of the negroes. The strong and healthy had also been drafted for military service; so that those left to Mr. Philbrick for his experiment were mostly the aged and the women and children. Nothing discouraged, he set to work, gained the confidence of the negroes, paid them moderate wages, and set up a store from which their wants were supplied according to their earnings. What was the result of the experiment? Cotton was raised at little more, if indeed not a little less, expense by free labour than it was formerly done in slavery. (Cheers.) Englishmen were not only on moral but on commercial grounds interested in this question. Slavery was disorganised to such an extent that, whatever the consequence of the war—and even the friends of the South were not now very sanguine about its prospects—this they might depend on, that they would never get large supplies of slave-grown cotton from America. But it may be asked, since the Americans get on so well, why do they want assistance for the negroes? The United States were doing their duty, but the scale on which the change was taking place was tremendous, and besides, the States into which the negroes were escaping by thousands and tens of thousands, had not the means, though they had the will, to meet the great and sudden necessity.

After interesting addresses from Mr. Coffin and Dr. Massie, Mr. Alderman BROWN moved a resolution to the effect that the meeting, having heard the aims and objects of this society for the relief of the freed men in the United States, recorded their thanks for the instructive and interesting addresses of the deputation, and resolved to form an auxiliary to promote the beneficent purposes for which the society was originated. Mr. A. ILLINGWORTH seconded the motion, which was cordially adopted. A local committee was formed to further the objects of the Freedman's Aid Society, and several subscriptions were promised.

Similar meetings have been held at Leicester and Manchester.

A periodical which busies itself with heraldry gives the following as the arms of the principal Italian cities:—Naples, a siren; Rome, a she-wolf; Florence, a lily; Modena and Piacenza, a cross; Venice, a lion; Turin, a bull. The arms of Sicily are a head with three legs, an allusion probably to her three capes—Trinacria.

Literature.

MR. ALLINGHAM'S BALLAD BOOK.*

It has long been felt by cultivated persons that no existing collection of our English ballads could be considered satisfactory by those who unite to poetical taste something of critical judgment and acquaintance with our elder literature. Inaccurate recitations, ingenious interpretations, and modern imitations had combined to make ballad-books largely a disappointment and a vexation to those who had got beyond a youthful enjoyment of "Robin Hood" and "Chevy Chase," and the "Babes in the Wood," and were unable to accept unquestionably, and to digest without pain, as genuine productions of the olden time, the entire contents of such volumes as Bishop Percy's and Sir Walter Scott's. There has been no want of thankfulness and pleasure as to the treasures that such collections have preserved; but those have had the highest gratification and contentment who were in greatest ignorance, and knew no disturbance by literary criticism or poetical insight. Never were truer words written, as all the collectors of ballads who have been sufficiently diligent and devoted to become well-informed will bear witness, than Mr. Allingham's in the following sentences:—"All honour and gratitude to the collectors and editors, greater and lesser; yet one must venture to say, that the really fine and favourite old ballads have hitherto formed the vital portions of a set of volumes which are, on the whole, rather lumpish and unreadable. The feast they offer is somewhat like an 'olla podrida' of Spenser's 'Fairy Queen,' Dodsley's 'Miscellany,' the driest columns of 'Notes and Queries,' and a selection from 'the Poet's Corner of provincial newspapers.' And who has not felt infinite weariness and disgust at the 'padding' of such collections with what are so well described as 'certain joyless 'introductions, dissertations, notes, appendices, commentaries, controversies, of an antiquarian, historical, or pseudo-historical nature, wherein the poetry is packed, like pots of dainties and wine-flasks, in 'straw and sawdust'?" All honour and gratitude, we say, to the true poet—author of delicate lyrics, and of one of the finest contemporary poems, having a purely modern and social interest—who has thrown himself into the work of patiently collating and worthily editing our popular romantic ballads. Most welcome to us, in more than realisation of many indefinite but earnestly longing desires, is the appearance, in the exquisitely perfect "Golden Treasury Series," of Mr. Allingham's selection of the choicest of the old "narrative songs" that we think of so pleasantly as "chantingly recited" to popular audiences in the days far behind.

This volume contains seventy-six of "the best old ballads in at once the best and the most authentic attainable form." The editor remarks, however, that "in most cases, the authority, if it deserve the name at all, for the text of an old ballad is of an obscure and evasive kind; and the more scrutiny the less assurance." Of the comparatively few old MS. copies extant "most, if not all, were doubtlessly taken down, directly or otherwise, from the oral delivery of professional minstrels, who themselves, whether as inventors or repeaters, were not accustomed to commit their verses to paper; and such MS. copies, made by anonymous, and often, as is the case of Percy's Folio, illiterate hands, have really no more authority than oral versions obtained in our own day." Mr. Allingham reviews briefly, acutely, and with large knowledge, some of the chief collections, from 1658—the date at which "Wit Restored" included versions of "Johnnie Armstrong," and "Little Musgrave,"—down through the "Miscellany Poems" edited by Dryden, the "Collection of Old Ballads" made in 1723, Allan Ramsay's volumes, the famous Percy's "Reliques," Herd, Walter Scott, Jamieson, and Motherwell, to the large collection of things in the ballad way, good, bad, and indifferent, made by Professor Child, of Philadelphia, some five or six years ago. Noticing to some extent the state of the text under the revising and correcting hands of the various editors, he proceeds to speak of his own labours.

"The set of ballads in our own volume is, we believe, on the whole, much nearer to what the sung and recited ballads really were, at their best, than those which we have all accepted as 'The Old Ballads' in the collections of Percy, Jamieson, Scott, and other editors. Many modern interpolations, confessed or obvious, are now left out, greatly, if we mistake not, to the improvement of the ballads. Where rearrangement, or selections from different copies (freely practised by preceding editors), appeared desirable, it has been done with diligent examination of a large mass of materials, and

with the most punctilious caution; and where the present editor found occasion, which was rarely, to supply some link, repair some dropt stitch, he has dealt merely with things neutral, carefully avoiding to foist in any touches of pseudo-antique, whether in incident, language, or costume. A very few words are altered for manners' sake. Substantially, he has added nothing to the ballads."

After making for ourselves a comparison of the texts in several former editions, and in this, we are quite sure that Mr. Allingham may be well content to await the judgment, as to the value of his labours, both of those who are thoroughly acquainted with this department of our literature and those who have simply a genuine taste and feeling for this particular order of poetry.

The whole of Mr. Allingham's introduction contrasts at every point with the dull and wearisome dissertations to which we have become accustomed with respect to the date, origin, and historical foundations of these old popular compositions; and is worthy of being reproduced entire, as the best possible commendation of his collection, if only we could find room for it. We will simply add its closing passage, and then lay down the volume, as the most perfect "Ballad Book" ever produced, admirable alike for what it contains and what it excludes, and entitled to the hearty gratitude and unrestrained praise of every lover of our pre-Shakespearean song.

"To sum up, in regard to the ballads here presented, they are narrative poems of an old simple kind, modified in form in transmission to our own day. They have no historical value, except in so far as they convey a general impression of a state of society very different from ours in externals, being hot, rude, violent, and picturesque. Below the surface, perhaps, the difference is not so great. The same passions and motives show themselves in human history with their outward fashion changed, in all places and at all times.

"The old ballads abound in strong situations; they are full of crime, of battle, murder, and sudden death. Such is the very substance of which the best of them are wrought, and those who are unwilling to look on the tragic side of human life must turn their eyes elsewhere. Two or three fine ballads have been omitted as too painful or horrible for our audience. Many gloomy stories remain, but all told with simple seriousness and right feeling. When sin and crime are spoken of, it is with due gravity. The dignity of human nature is upheld. In the varieties of character and fortune, some facts present themselves which are by general consent deemed unsuitable for literary treatment, and they who deal with such, however well, narrow their audience from millions to units; but there are many incidents and combinations of a tragical kind of which it is wholesome to speak, and whereof no one has so good a right to speak as the poet—provided he speaks rightly. We do well for our humanity by looking at the darker incidents of life, in their turn, in the mirror of art, when there presented with a true sense of their solemn and fathomless import. There is nothing finer in literature in the same compass, than 'Childe Maurice,' 'Little Musgrave,' 'Clerk Saunders,' 'Fine Flowers in the Valley,' 'Young Rekin,' 'Childe Vyat,' and 'Glasgerion.' But all is not darkness and tempest in this region of song; gay stories of true love with a happy ending are many; and they who love enchantments, and to be borne off into fairy-land, may have their wish at the turning of a leaf."

BRIEF NOTICES.

The Prince of Light and the Prince of Darkness in Conflict. By the Rev. A. B. GROSART. (Nisbet and Co.) This is a book on the Temptation of our Lord, the Scripture account of which is "newly translated, explained, illustrated, and applied." Mr. Grosart's view of the nature and manner of the Temptation, as internal and spiritual, is, in our opinion, the correct one; and it is worked out and applied by him with considerable freshness and power. But it is by no means novel; and the substance of his exposition and of its practical improvement may often have been heard from the pulpits of our more thoughtful teachers. It is rather more than one can bear without smiling to find Mr. Grosart on such excellent terms with himself as not to perceive that there is a good deal of self-assertion in such "talks, talks" (to quote words he himself uses), as the following:—"While I believe I have made myself familiar with the extant literature of the Temptation, 'I have thought out every 'jot and tittle' for myself. 'It were petty and paltry pretence, therefore, not to avouch that I cherish the expectation of my readers finding that I have somewhat fathomed the Temptation, and consequently some new insight into the 'mind of 'the Spirit,' and some applications not stale to 'men's 'business and bosomes.' I must be permitted, in these days of 'talks talks,' and slim book-making, to state that I print the thing not because I wished to say something about the Temptation, but because I had something to say; and so in reference to all I have published and may publish." The present volume is only a small instalment of the fulfilment of a great purpose, Mr. Grosart tells us; but those interested about it further must consult his preface. Mr. Grosart has a wonderful knowledge of books, and we should think must be very industrious in excerpts for book-making purposes. He introduces quotations very largely, and they are generally precious as well as appropriate; but there is something of pedantry and ostentation in an author who parades every scrap he had lighted on that bears on the matter he has in hand; and who never gives a note of reference on such a common phrase as "men's business and bosomes," and uses

antiquated spelling in quoting it. Still further, the charge of almost repulsive self-consciousness might well be made against one who, by abundant talk about what-ever he does or proposes to do, and about his own style, and about what "Dr. John Brown has genially and 'generously told the public about him'" (the said Mr. Grosart), appears to attach the highest importance and value to every performance of his own, and to every characteristic of each. Must not the type of culture and the circle of associates, be something curious in the case of one who solemnly writes, *apropos* of a Shakespearean quotation, the following note?

"I cannot help adding here how much I owe to William Shakspeare. I dare say I read his works oftener, and return to them more frequently, than any merely human writings; and I don't know that I ever read a page without personal enjoyment and personal profit. . . . Let me beg of my clerical brethren that they will cast aside their Simeons and Jays, and fusionless 'Plans' and 'Skeletons' of sermons, and turn to the creations—the breathing thoughts in burning words—of wise, gigantic, yet child-like-gentle William Shakspeare. To anathematise him betrays sheer ignorance."

And so does to patronise him. We say nothing of the striking effect of the introduction of the "William" in this passage—of course it implies familiarity and affectionateness. But "breathing thoughts in burning words" should surely have had a note—to keep "business and bosomes" in countenance. The modesty and earnestness of the "Let me beg" must silence our criticism, and we leave Shakspeare to Mr. Grosart's merciful interposition, to protect him from "cleric" anathemas. Mr. Grosart's style does not give one the impression of naturalness in structure or hue; but he says "affectation is an offence to him," and we trust it may more and more become so. We would not have him lose any real quaintness that is in his nature; but a man ought not to be conscious that he is quaint, and not to plume himself on it, when, for the most part, his matter and style might be described as ordinarily good matter, with an unusual quantity of quips and cranks in it. It will hardly be guessed from these remarks that we thoroughly like Mr. Grosart in more respects than those as to which we have freely criticised him; but we really do greatly admire his catholic taste and feeling and culture, and are at one with him on a hundred matters on which, as he passes along, he touches well and profitably. We have several times before spoken a word or two of what we think his literary faults; but, on the other hand, we were not stingy in our praise of a little book that we thought a beautiful performance on the whole; and we now condemn so plainly, and approve so sparingly, because we think a writer who could thoroughly engage and profit minds of a high order, is losing himself in mental habits and vices of style that are deserving to be condemned.

Our Common Insects: First Steps to Entomology. By Mrs. E. W. COX. (R. Hardwicke, Piccadilly.) This is an exceedingly condensed, clear, and interestingly-written introduction to the study of entomology, commencing with the main facts of insect physiology, giving the "orders" generally recognised, and, under the most recently-received system, an account of all the common insects of this country, with their popular names, as well as their scientific distinctions. The closing chapters, on "Insects in the Winter," "Our Insect Benefactors," and "Popular Errors about Insects," collect within a few pages facts that have great interest for the young, especially for country young folk. It is a welcome book, altogether well executed, and abundantly illustrated with woodcuts.

Christian Comfort. By the Author of "Emblems of 'Jesus.'" (Edinburgh: Nimmo.) Passages of Scripture, well-selected hymns—some of them not commonly known—and original meditations, closing with short prayers. The spirit is appropriate to counsel and consolation offered to the weary and sorrowful and perplexed; the sentiments are Scriptural; and the experience indicated seems genuine and deep. But the thoughts are not individual or rich, and are not expressed with that weighty brevity and intensity which is especially desirable in a book purposing to give wise comfort to the distressed.

God's Way of Holiness. By HORATIUS BONAR, D.D. (Nisbet and Co.) On the connection of the way of peace and the way of holiness—"a true holiness starting from an authentic peace"—this is the author's theme. How the author would treat it, as to Scripture interpretation, deduction of doctrine, and practical instruction, most of our readers will perhaps be able to infer from the well-known author's previous works. It is strong-handed, especially on such topics as "The Saint and the Law," "The Saint and the Seventh of Romans";—and it is fine-hearted, as in "The Cross and its Power," and "The True Creed and the True Life": but it is sometimes more controversial than one studying the book for guidance's sake would find profitable, and there is something of what we think unscriptural and injurious in its occasional theological representations. The notes are addressed to the student rather than the general reader, for which the work as a whole is adapted. We might quote many fine, forcible, heart-moving sayings, that show a genuine spirit and life in them; and could give a few instances of hard words and unjust allusions. We wish it were more simply such a map and guide-book of "God's Way of Holiness" as Dr. Bonar is peculiarly fitted to prepare for the traveller therein. It is printed in large type, and might be read easily even by those far advanced in age.

* *The Ballad Book: A Selection of the Choicest British Ballads.* Edited by WILLIAM ALLINGHAM. (Golden Treasury Series.) Macmillan and Co.

THE LITERARY SEASON.

(From the *Athenæum*.)

The promises of the literary season begin to startle one by their magnitude and variety. Mr. Murray's announcements are of great extent and unusual interest, including: "The Iliad of Homer, rendered into English Blank Verse," by Edward, Earl of Derby—"Plato and the other Companions of Socrates," by George Grote—"Narrative of an Expedition to the Zambezi and its Tributaries; and of the Discovery of Lakes Shirwa and Nyassa, between the Years 1858 and 1864," by David Livingstone, M.D., and Charles Livingstone—"The New Testament Illustrated," by the Rev. Edward Churton and the Rev. Basil Jones—"Travels and Adventures of Arminius Vámbéry," by the Rev. John Jones—"The British Army in China and Japan," by D. F. Rennie, M.D.—"A Second Series of Lectures on the History of the Jewish Church from Samuel to the Captivity," by Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, Dean of Westminster—"Some New Chapters on Parliamentary Government, considered with Reference to Reform," by Earl Grey—"Narrative of the Siberian Overland Journey from Peking to St. Petersburg," by Alexander Michie—"History of the French Revolution, 1795-1789," by Professor Von Sybel, of Munich, translated from the last edition, with the author's sanction, by Edward Wilberforce—"Some Account of Gothic Architecture in Spain," by G. E. Street—"Researches into the History of Mankind," by E. B. Tylor—three new volumes of "The Judges of England," by Edward Foss—"Ephemera," by Lord Lyttelton—"James Brindley and the Early Engineers," by Samuel Smiles—"A New History of Painting in Italy, from the Second to the Sixteenth Century," by J. A. Crowe and G. B. Cavalcaselle—"Lives of the Warriors of the Seventeenth Century, who have Commanded Fleets and Armies before the Enemy," by Lieutenant-General Sir Edward Cust—"The Modern Samaritans, and a Visit to Nablous," by the Rev. John Mills—"An English Gentleman's House: being Practical Hints for its Plan and Arrangement," by Robert Kerr—Vols. III. and IV. of "A History of Modern Europe: from the Taking of Constantinople by the Turks, to the Close of the War in the Crimea, 1453-1857," by Thomas H. Dyer—"Physical Geography of the Holy Land," by the Rev. Edward Robinson—"Modern Warfare as influenced by Modern Artillery," by Colonel P. L. M'Donnell—"Some Account of the Music of the most Ancient Nations, particularly of the Assyrians, Egyptians and Hebrews," by Carl Engel—"The Works of Alexander Pope: with a New Life, Introduction, and Notes," by the Rev. Whitwell Elwin, B.A.—"Memorials of Services in India," from the Correspondence of the late Major Macpherson, C.B., edited by his brother, William Macpherson—"Life and Times of Sir Joshua Reynolds," commenced by the late C. R. Leslie, R.A., continued and concluded by Tom Taylor—"History of Media, Babylon, and Persia," by the Rev. George Rawlinson, M.A.

Messrs. Groombridge and Sons have in the press: "Ten Years in Sweden," by the Old Bushman—"The Temple Anecdotes," by Ralph and Chandos Temple—"The Pauper, the Thief, and the Convict," by Thomas Archer—"To-Day: Essays and Miscellanies," by John Hollingshead—"The Childhood and Schoolroom Hours of Royal Children," by Julia Luard—"Two Months in a London Hospital," by Arnold J. Cooley.

Mr. Newby announces: "A Right-Minded Woman: a Novel," by Frank Trollope—"Beatrice Lee: a Novel," by L. Curling—"The Root of all Evil," by Elizabeth Sheldon—"Alice Ferrar: a Novel," by E. J. Kelly—"Yaxley and its Neighbourhood: a Novel," by the author of "Myself and my Relatives"—"The Serf Wife among the Mines of Siberia"—and "English America, or Pictures of Canadian Places and People," by Samuel Phillips Day.

Mr. Nimmo is preparing: "Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Sir Richard Steele," by H. R. Montgomery—"Tabor's Teachings; or, the Veil Lifted"—"The Book of Wit and Humour: a Collection of Witticisms, Humorous Anecdotes, and Articles, selected from the Authors of all Countries," edited by Alexander Hislop—"Classical Biography," from Plutarch—"English Characters," from the Writings of Butler, Overbury, and Earles.

Messrs. Blackwood and Sons have in the press: "The Perpetual Curate," by the author of "Salem Chapel"—"Captain Grant's Narrative of his Journey through Africa with Captain Speke"—"The Great Governing Families of England," by J. Langton Sanford and Meredith Townsend—"The Economy of Capital; or, Thoughts on Gold and Trade," by R. H. Patterson.

Messrs. Seeley, Jackson, and Halliday announce "The Stones of Palestine," by Mrs. Mentor Mott—"The Lawgiver: a Sketch of the Principal Events in the History of Moses," by Mrs. Webb—"Foundation Truths; Four Sermons," by the Lord Bishop of Melbourne—"Temper: its Use and Abuse," by a Staffordshire Curate, with a Preface by the Rev. J. C. Ryle, M.A.—and "Rich and Poor: Narratives illustrative of Relative Duties," by C. E. B.

At Rome, Monsignore de Mérode has made Blondin hand over a per-centage of his profits, when exhibiting at the Macao, to the "Peter's pence" fund.

A chaplain in Arkansas says a man buying furs was conversing with a woman, at whose house he called, and asked her "if there was any Presbyterians around there." She hesitated a moment, and said she "guessed her husband hadn't killed any since they'd lived there."

Gleanings.

Of all the dust thrown in men's eyes, gold-dust is the most blinding.

The Americans have added a new word to the language. They now call a circus a "hippotheatron." It is reported that the Primitive Methodists are about to form a special settlement in New Zealand.

A "Wear-your-last-Winter-Overcoat Club" has been formed in New York.

No matter what part other persons play, a tradesman is sure to play the counter-part.

The good wear their years as a crown upon their brow, the bad as a burden upon the back.

Why ought dentists to be good cricketers? Because they are adepts at "drawing the stumps."

A movement is on foot to erect a statue of Mr. Gladstone in Liverpool.

It is said that a Chief Judge in Bankruptcy will be proposed next year, to aid the working of the new laws.

In Somersetshire apples are selling at 6d. per bushel, and they are given to the pigs. In America apples form a considerable portion of swine food.

Soon after Sir Henry Rivers took orders, he was told by a friend that he would undoubtedly become a bishop. "Indeed," said Sir Henry, "why so?" "Because rivers invariably go to the sea."

The Thames embankment is making satisfactory progress. Between Waterloo-bridge and Temple-gardens a length of 120 feet of the dam is completed and made water-tight.

A gentleman being prevailed upon to taste a lady's home-made wine, was asked for an opinion of what he had tasted. "I always give a candid one," said her guest, "where eating and drinking are concerned. It is admirable stuff to catch flies."

We (*Orchestra*) understand Mr. Boucicault intends working the Davenport "manifestations" into a spiritualistic drama of great interest, which may probably be first produced at the Amphitheatre, Liverpool.

The Rev. Mr. Barham, author of the famous "Ingoldsby Legends," used to tell a story of the complete discomfiture of a wit of no inferior order by a message, politely delivered at a supper party by a little girl. "If you please, Mr. Jones, mamma sends her compliments, and would be much obliged if you would begin to be funny."

Some one mentioned in Lamb's presence the cold-heartedness of the Duke of Cumberland in restraining the duchess from rushing up to the embrace of their son, whom she had not seen for a considerable time, and insisting on her receiving him in state. "How horribly cool it was!" said the narrator. "Yes," replied Lamb, in his stammering way; "but you know he is the Duke of Cumberland."

FEELING HER WAY.—General Schenck, discussing the Democratic platform, in a speech at Hamilton, Ohio, brought down the house by the following illustration:—"I know nothing at all that is like it, unless it may be the character of the fruit that is sold by an old lady who sits at the door of the Court-house in Cincinnati. She is a shrewd old woman. A young sprig of a lawyer stepped up one day and said to her, 'You seem to have some fine apples. Are they sweet or sour?' The old lady tried to take the measure of her customer, and find out whether his taste was for sweet or sour apples. 'Why, sir,' said she, 'they are rather acid; a sort of low tart, inclined to be very sweet.'"

THE FOUR ECLIPSES FOR 1865.—Next year there will be four eclipses, two of the sun and two of the moon. The first eclipse of the moon takes place on the 11th of April, beginning at 45 minutes past three in the morning, the moon setting eclipsed at 12 minutes past five. The second, a total eclipse of the sun, April 25, is not visible in Great Britain. The third eclipse (of the moon), partial and visible, occurs Oct. 3, beginning at 39 minutes past nine at night; middle, 40 minutes past ten, and ends 54 minutes past twelve. The fourth and last, on the 19th of October, of the sun, is only partly visible, beginning at 12 minutes past four.

AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR.—M. Daray, Minister of Public Instruction, as is well known, recently made a tour in the departments. He arrived one morning, accompanied by his son, at the College of —, and, without giving his name, penetrated incognito as far as the cabinet of the director. He knocked at the door, and on a voice from within telling him to come in he entered the room. The director was writing, and, without deranging himself in the least, he said, "Sit down there." The Minister took a seat and waited until the letter was finished. The director then deigned to look up, and said, "What is the age of that young man?" "Twenty-two," was the reply. "Diable! and what do you intend to make of him?" "My secretary." "Well, and do you wish to put him into this college?" "No, I do not." "Well, then, what do you come here for?" "I come to see how you receive the parents of pupils. I am the Minister of Public Instruction."

ANECDOTE OF THE POPE.—A young nobleman of the Papal States, on succeeding to his family title, found that his uncle and predecessor had expended nearly the whole property in assisting the Pope at the time of his flight from Rome. The young man was left all but penniless; he naturally determined to seek Pío IX., expose his condition, and implore from his holiness either repayment, or some such office as would recompense his loss. It proved, however, no easy matter for him to obtain the desired interview. By some unaccountable contingency, the Pope was never able to receive him, though he applied through many channels for the favour. Months passed on, and finally two or three years, and the

young nobleman was still soliciting the permission to lay his claim before his holy debtor. At last, the Pope undertook one of his journeys; the nobleman followed him, found him on one occasion less carefully guarded than usual, forced the *consigne* at his private door, and entering the sacred presence, threw himself at his Holiness's feet, and expounded his case. The Pope listened both patiently and amiably while the youth detailed all that his uncle had given, and how the family estates were mortgaged in consequence, and how since the uncle's death he had been seeking the Pope to obtain favourable consideration of his claims. The Pope, as I have said, listened most graciously, inasmuch that the nobleman congratulated himself in the confident hope that his petition would assuredly be granted. "And how long ago is it," said the Pope, "since your excellent uncle died?" "Just four years ago, may it please your Holiness." "Then," returned the Pope, "for four years exactly, *il suo signor zio* has received in heaven the reward of his magnanimous devotion to the Holy See. Benedicite!" This said, and extending his two fingers over the abashed and kneeling suppliant, Pío IX. swept out of the room.—"*Italics*," by Frances Power Cobbe.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

The Stock Markets present a comparatively buoyant appearance again, and affairs generally begin to look favourable. On Wednesday last Consols fell $\frac{1}{2}$; but there has been a gradual improvement up to this evening of $\frac{1}{4}$ and more each day. The last prices were 89 $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, for delivery, and 89 $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, for the 10th November.

There have been no very large failures; the chief ones being those of Messrs. Manning and Collyer, hemp and jute brokers, with liabilities of 100,000; and Messrs. Galbraith and Bigland, merchants, with liabilities of about 150,000. The mail from Brazil last week confirmed the news which came by telegram, of the failure of several banking houses there. Their aggregate liabilities amount to 11,000,000. With one exception, but that, unfortunately, a very important one, it is expected that the results will not ultimately be very disastrous. The largest bank, however, it is feared, will not yield more than 30 to 50 per cent. to its creditors, many of whom are the smaller traders and merchants of the city.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, October 18.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£26,880,025	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	3,634,960
		Gold Coin & Bullion	12,230,025
	£26,880,025		£26,880,025

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000	Government Securities	£9,570,212
Reserve	3,219,485	Other Securities ..	19,780,745
Public Deposits	3,273,589	Notes	5,647,090
Other Deposits	14,098,454	Gold & Silver Coin	772,463
Seven Day and other			
Bills	595,985		
	£39,770,513		£39,770,513

Oct 19, 1864.

W. MILLER, Chief Cashier.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

BURGESS.—Aug. 17, at Encounter Bay, South Australia, the wife of Mr. T. Burgess, of a son.
FISHER.—Oct. 11, at Englefield-road, Islington, the wife of the Rev. F. W. Fisher, of Hoxton Academy Chapel, of a daughter.
LOWDEN.—Oct. 17, the wife of the Rev. G. Rouse Lowden, F.R.G.S., Uxbridge, of a daughter.
DARTON.—Oct. 17, at Park Villa, Newport, Mon., the wife of the Rev. F. W. Darton, of a daughter.
ROBERTS.—Oct. 19, the wife of the Rev. W. Roberts, B.A., Notting-hill, of a son.
HEATHER.—Oct. 23, at No. 31, Gloucester-road, Regent's-park, the wife of George Heather, Esq., jun., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

STRINGER—NORTHALL.—Oct. 6, at Stockwell-green Chapel, by the Rev. David Thomas, David, youngest son of the late Mr. Thomas Stringer, of Kennington-croas, Surrey, to Miss Harriet Northall, youngest daughter of Mr. Henry Northall, of Tooting. No cards.
BERRY—JACKMAN.—Oct. 10, at the Congregational Church, Farnworth, by the Rev. W. Jackson, Mr. Thomas Berry, of Farnworth, to Miss Mary Jackman, of Little Lever.
HOOKER—AUNGER.—Oct. 10, at Castle-street Chapel, Exeter, by the Rev. David Hewitt, Mr. Richard Hooker, to Louisa Augusta, only daughter of Mr. James Aunger, both of Exeter.
GATHERGOOD—DOVE.—Oct. 12, at the Independent Chapel, Wymondham, by the Rev. J. Anderson, Mr. Robert Gathergood, to Miss Mary Ann Dove, both of Wymondham.
RIDGWAY—DAWBARN.—Oct. 13, at Pembroke Chapel, Liverpool, Thomas Ridgway, Esq., of Elm Lodge, Towcester, to Cordelia, fourth daughter of the late John Dawbarn, Esq., of Liverpool. No cards.
GALE—DERHAM.—Oct. 14, at Arley Chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. Samuel Hebditch, Mr. William J. Gale, of London, only son of Mr. W. N. Gale, of Cliff House, Bruton, to Sophia, only daughter of Mr. James Derham, of Wington Villa, Cotham-road, Bristol. No cards.
TILLET—MINNS.—Oct. 16, at the Independent Chapel, Wymondham, by the Rev. J. Anderson, Mr. James Tillet, to Sarah Ann Minns, both of Wymondham.
HIGHTON—CUBBY.—Oct. 17, in St. Paul's Independent Chapel, Wigao, by the Rev. W. Hoof, Mr. William Highton, to Miss Mary Cubby, both of that town.
COX—CHANDLER.—Oct. 19, at the Congregational Church, Richmond, Surrey, by the Rev. C. Graham, Mr. Charles Cox, of Richmond, and of No. 21, Bishopgate-street With-out, to Hepzibah Louisa, of Cromwell Lodge, Acton, youngest daughter of the late Mr. James Chandler, late of High Holborn. No cards.

BURNLEY—LEE.—Oct. 20, at Zion Chapel, Wakefield, by the Rev. H. Sanders, assisted by the Rev. J. S. Eastmead, Frank, third son of the late Thomas Burnley, Esq., of Gomersal, to Jane, youngest daughter of the late George Lee, Esq., of Wakefield. No cards.

PICKERSGILL—HARGREAVES.—Oct. 20, at Park Chapel, Blackburn, by the Rev. D. Herbert, M.A., Mr. Thomas Pickersgill, of Darwen, to Maria, daughter of the Rev. James Hargreaves, of Morcombe Lake.

TAYLOR—KROHNTE.—Oct. 21, at the Congregational Church, Saltair, by the Rev. H. M. Stallybrass, James Somerville Taylor, of Hamilton Cottage, Apperley Bridge, to Therese Elise Amalie, daughter of Johann Krohn, Esq., of Gluckstadt. No cards.

EVANS—KEES.—At the Independent Chapel, Machynlleth, by the Rev. Josiah Jones, assisted by the Rev. Samuel Edwards, Mr. David Evans, Dewi Glan Llyfiant, to Miss Anne Keey, both of Machynlleth.

DEATHS.

WILSDEN.—Oct. 7, at Preston, aged fifty-seven, the Rev. W. Wilsden, for many years an Independent minister at Horwich, near Bolton.

COOK.—Oct. 13, at Wigan, aged sixty-seven, Thomas Cook, Esq., J.P.

EGG.—Oct. 18, at Belgrave Villa, Woodford, Essex, aged four months, Edward Joseph, the beloved infant of the Rev. Edward Thomas Egg, Independent minister.

HORSEY.—Oct. 18, at Wellington, Somerset, Maria, the wife of W. D. Horsey, Esq., aged seventy-three.

BURNELL.—Oct. 22, at Windsor Villas, Plymouth, John Burnell, Esq., an alderman and magistrate of Plymouth, aged seventy-two.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—THE BEST WAY.—To gain any end, there are often many ways, but there is always a best way. This statement applies with wonderful force to Holloway's remedies, which overcome ill health by driving noxious matters from the frame, by repairing broken or injured structures, and by establishing regularity of action. This is the only safe and feasible method of combating diseases and securing sound health. With pure blood, good digestion, strong nerves, and perfect functional order, most maladies may be vanquished, and strength surely re-established. The balsamic and healing qualities of Holloway's Ointment render it invaluable in the nursery for healing cuts, scratches, and sores, for allaying inflammation, reducing swellings, or cleansing unhealthy skins.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Oct. 24.

With a moderate supply of English wheat this morning factors were enabled to effect a clearance, at about the currency of last Monday; and the trade for foreign was dull, at about the quotations of this day week. Barley of all descriptions a slow sale, at last week's rates. No alteration in the value of beans or peas. Of oats the arrivals from abroad are small, but we have had good supplies of Irish during the past week. Holders have been firm, and the trade is rather better than on Friday; the prices realised to-day for all descriptions have been about equal to those of last Monday.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d to 7d; household ditto, 5d to 6d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, October 24.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 13,922 head. In the corresponding week in 1863 we received 13,281; in 1861, 7,829; in 1860, 14,643; in 1859, 9,577; in 1858, 8,573; in 1857, 8,767. There was a full average supply of foreign stock on sale here to-day. There were some useful beasts and sheep on offer, but the bulk of the supply was of inferior quality. There was again a large number of store beasts exhibited for sale. The trade generally was slow at late rates. The arrivals of English beasts from our own grazing districts, fresh up, exhibited a falling off from Monday last. The supply of Scotch beasts on sale was small, but their quality was very prime. With Irish beasts the market was less extensively supplied, and the general quality of the supply of beasts was very middling. The trade, consequently, for good and prime Scots, crosses, shorthorns, &c., was firm, and last Monday's prices were well supported. Inferior breeds, however, were a dull inquiry, at about previous quotations. The top figure for beef was 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire we received 2,500 shorthorns, &c.; from other parts of England, 700 various breeds; from Scotland, 40 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 420 oxen and heifers. The supply of sheep on sale was less extensive than on Monday last, but the decrease was chiefly in home-fed stock. The quality of the supply was but middling, and all good and prime Downs and half-breeds changed hands at full prices. Inferior breeds sold heavily, and the quotations were in some instances rather lower. The general top figure for mutton was 5s. 6d. per 8lbs. With calves the market was fairly supplied, and the real trade ruled inactive at previous quotations. The top price was 5s. per 8lbs. Very little change took place in the value of pigs. Generally speaking the trade was slow, but prime small pigs were firm in price.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inf. coarce beasts, 3 2 to 3 10	Prime Southdown 5 4 to 5 6
Second quality 4 0 4 6	Lamb 4 0 4 6
Prime large oxen 4 8 5 0	Lge. coarce calves 4 0 4 6
Prime Scots, &c. 5 2 5 4	Prime small 4 8 5 0
Coarce inf. sheep 3 8 4 2	Large hogs 3 6 4 2
Second quality 4 4 4 8	Meatm. porkers 4 4 4 10
Pr. coarce wooled 4 10 5 2	

Butchling calves, 16s to 22s. Quarter-old store pigs, 20s to 26s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, October 24.

These markets are moderately supplied both with town and country killed meat. Generally speaking the trade is slow, at our quotations.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Inferior beef 3 0 to 3 4	Small pork 4 6 to 5 0
Middling ditto 3 6 3 10	Inf. mutton 3 8 4 0
Prime large do 4 0 4 2	Middling ditto 4 2 4 4
Do. small do 4 4 4 6	Prime ditto 4 6 4 8
Large pork 3 6 4 4	Veal 3 8 4 8

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, Oct. 25.

TEA.—Only a moderate amount of business has been done, and prices in some instances are a shade flatter.

SUGAR.—Business has continued quiet, and prices have not varied to any important extent. In the refined market quotations are in most instances fully maintained.

COFFEE.—There has been a fair demand for fine qualities of colonial, which have realised former rates.

RICE.—A fair demand has existed for East India, which have sold at heavy rates.

PROVISIONS. Monday, Oct. 24.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 4,570 firkins butter, and 1,425 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 18,669 casks of butter, and 1,391 bales bacon. The Irish butter market ruled very quiet last week, and the few sales effected were the turn in favour of buyers. Foreign was in large supply, and prices declined 8s. to 10s. per cwt. The bacon market was also quiet, without change in value of best Waterford, but other kinds were rather lower in price.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Oct. 24.—These markets continue to be moderately supplied with

home-grown potatoes, but the show of foreign produce on sale is very small. The trade, generally speaking, is slow, at rather lower prices. The imports into London, last week, were 15 bags from Dordt, 100 from Rotterdam, 100 from Boulogne, and 5 sacks from Hamburg.

SEEDS. Monday, Oct. 24.—In the market for seeds there is little business passing in any description, holders are firm, and the quantity offering is limited.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c. Saturday, Oct. 22.—We have to report a moderate trade for flax, yet prices rule stationary. Riga is quoted at 65l. to 70l.; Egyptian Government dressed, 58l. to 70l., native dressed, 27l. to 30l. per ton. The market for hemp is quiet, at about previous rates; clean Russian qualities being quoted at 32l. to 34l. per ton. Jute continues dull, at from 8l. 10s. to 29l. per ton. Coir goods are a dull inquiry at about previous rates.

WOOL. Monday, October 24.—Since our last report, the demand for all kinds of home-grown wool both for home and for export purposes has been very limited. In prices, however, no change has taken place. The supply on offer has rather increased, there is no disposition on the part of holders to force sales.

TALLOW. Monday, Oct. 24.—The tallow trade is steady to-day. New P.Y.C. is quoted at 40s. per cwt. on the spot. Town tallow is selling at 41s. 6d. net cash. Rough fat 2s. 2d. per 8lbs.

OIL. Monday, Oct. 24.—Linseed oil has ruled heavy, at 39s. 6d. per cwt. on the spot. Rape is a dull inquiry, at 44s. 6d. for foreign refined and 41s. 6d. for brown. In coconut, olive, palm, and fish oils a limited business is doing, on rather easier terms. Turpentine is dull, and has fallen to 62s. 6d. for French spirits. American refined Pennsylvania petroleum, 2s. per gallon.

COALS. Monday, October 24.—An advance on last day's rates, South Hetton's, 21s. 6d.; East Hartlepool, 21s. 6d.; Haswell's, 21s. 6d.; New Belmont, 20s. 6d.; Eden Main, 20s. 3d.; Wylam, 18s. 6d.; Kelloe, 20s. 9d.; Norton Anthracite, 21s. 12 fresh arrivals; 6 left; 35 at sea.

Advertisements.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.

The HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the GOVERNORS was held on TUESDAY, the 25th October, at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, BLOMFIELD-STREET, FINSBURY.

HENRY MAJOR, Esq., in the Chair.

The Poll was taken for the Election of Boys into the School, and the first FIVE in the following list were declared the successful Candidates:—

Lewis, E. S.	1,414	Jones, O.	586
Hughes, T. J.	1,357	Pike, J.	486
Bailey, E. J.	1,301	Duthie, D. W.	397
Postans, G. C.	1,214	Bailey, A.	317
Bell, T. D.	1,174	Oakley, F. T.	287
Jones, W. D.	1,128	Telfer, W. J.	241
Close, W. H.	970	Lewis, R. S.	214
Oliver, S.	826	Jacob, S.	99
Harber, W. J.	821	Bligh, H.	30
Merchant, F.	656		

GEO. ROSE, Secretary.



NEW EDITION.—POST FREE.

GABRIEL'S PAMPHLET on the TEETH.

(ILLUSTRATED AND DESCRIPTIVE)

Explaining the only effectual mode of supplying Artificial Teeth without pain, to answer in every particular the purpose of natural masticators.

GABRIEL'S "Pamphlet on the Teeth" should be read by all who value health, and before consulting a Dentist.—Morning Herald.

These Teeth are supplied on the principle of Capillary Attraction and Suction, thus dispensing entirely with springs, and are supplied at moderate charges.

MESSRS. GABRIEL,

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,

LONDON:

27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENTISH-SQUARE, W.

CITY ESTABLISHMENT:

36, LUDGATE-HILL, 36.

(Four Doors from the Railway Bridge.)

134, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and

65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Messrs. GABRIEL guarantee every case they undertake.

AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH. from Four to Seven and Ten to Fifteen Guineas per Set, best in Europe, warranted. Single Teeth and partial Sets at proportionate moderate charges.

TEETH and PAINLESS DENTISTRY.

Messrs. LEWIN MOSELY and SONS, 30, Berners-street, Oxford-street, and 443, Strand (opposite Charing-cross Railway Station), Established 1820, offer to the Public a medium for supplying Artificial Teeth on a system of PAINLESS DENTISTRY. These Teeth are cheaper, more natural, comfortable and durable than any yet produced. They are self-adhesive, affording support to Loose Teeth, rendering unnecessary either wires or ligatures, require but one visit to fit, and are supplied at prices completely defying competition. Consultation free. Teeth from 5s. Sets, 5, 7, 10, and 15 guineas, warranted. For the efficacy and success of this system, vide "Lancet." No connexion with any one of the same name.

PEACHEY'S PIANOFORTES FOR HIRE.

CARRIAGE FREE.

Option of Purchase, on Convenient Terms, at any Period.

PEACHEY'S

CITY OF LONDON MANUFACTORY,

AND EXTENSIVE SHOW-ROOMS,

73 BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, LONDON, E.C.

Opposite the Marine Society.

An extensive assortment of PIANOFORTES, WARRANTED New and Second-hand. Every Description and Price.

HARMONIUMS FOR SALE OR HIRE.

*New Grand Pianofortes for HIRE, for Concerts, Lectures, &c.

PIANOFORTES, with EASY TERMS of PURCHASE.

Honourable mention for good and cheap Pianofortes was given by the Jury at the Great International Exhibition, 1862, to MOORE and MOORE, 104, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C. See the Royal Commissioners' Report, Pianofortes Extraordinary. These Pianos are of rare excellence, with the best improvements, recently applied, which effect a grand, a pure and delightful quality of tone, that stands unrivalled. Prices from Eighteen Guineas.

First-class Pianos for hire, with easy terms of purchase. A very large and choice Stock for Selection; also a variety of Second-hand Pianos at low prices.

The Best Harmoniums for Sale or Hire. Carriage free.

THE ROYAL OSBORNE (PATENT)

MIXTURE OF TEAS,

6lbs. Sent to any part of England carriage free.

Agents wanted in all Towns where there are none appointed.

FRANKS, SON, and CO., 40, Queen-street, Cannon-street West.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA It is CHOICE and STRONG, BECAUSE it consists of most valuable growths that are full of rich essential properties.

It is MODERATE in PRICE, BECAUSE it is supplied direct from the importers to the consumers by Agents.

It is WHOLESOME to use, BECAUSE the leaf is not faced with the usual powdered mineral colours.

These COMBINED ADVANTAGES have secured for this Tea a general preference. It is sold in sealed packets, with the price printed on each, and signed—

Horniman & Co.

MANUFACTURERS TO THE QUEEN AND PRINCE OF WALES.

FRY'S HOMOEOPATHIC ROCK ICELAND MOSS COCOA. PEARL

FRY'S SOLUBLE CHOCOLATE.

J. S. FRY and SONS are the only English Manufacturer of Cocoa who obtained the Prize Medal, 1862.

TAYLOR BROTHERS' GENUINE MUSTARD.

Dr. HASSALL, having subjected this mustard to a rigorous microscopical examination and chemical analysis, reports that it contains the three essential properties of good Mustard, viz:—

PURITY, PUNGENCY, AND DELICATE FLAVOUR.

See that each Package bears their Trade Mark the "Pride Ox," and Dr. Hassall's Report.

Sold by all Grocers, &c., throughout the kingdom.

TAYLOR BROTHERS Brick-lane, & Wentworth-street, London, N.E.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE,"

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

*Sole Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. CROSE and BLACKWELL; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

SOFT, DELICATE, AND WHITE SKINS,

WITH A DELIGHTFUL AND LASTING FRAGRANCE,

BY USING

Field's Celebrated United Service Soap

Tablets,

4d. & 6d. Each.

Sold by all Chandlers and Grocers throughout the Kingdom; but the Public should ask for Field's, and see that the name of J. C. and J. FIELD is on each packet, box, and tablet.

Wholesale and for Exportation, at the Works,

UPPER MARSH, LAMBETH, S.

Where also may be obtained their Prize Medal Paraffine Candles.

CANDLES.—THE NEW CANDLE.

Self-fitting. No Holder, Paper, or Scraping required.

PATENTED.

FIELD'S Improved Patent Hard, Snuffless Chamber Candle is SELF-FITTING, Clean, Safe, Economical, and Burns to the End. Sold Everywhere by Grocers and Oilmen; Wholesale and for Export, at the Works,

J. C. & J. FIELD'S,

UPPER MARSH, LAMBETH.

ALSO,

Field's celebrated United Service Soap Tablets, and Patent Paraffine Candles, as supplied to

HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO:—

a consummation too often defeated by our Cooks! Dr. Lang's Essential Spirit of Melissa will effectually aid the worst digestion, and restore tone and nerve to the system.

To be had of Wholesale Patent Medicine Vendors, and all respectable Chemists throughout the country, in bottles at 2s. 9d. each.

Full directions for Use on wrappers enclosing the bottles.

DIP CANDLES TO BURN WITHOUT SNUFFING.
PALMER and CO'S VICTORIA SNUFF.
 LESS DIPS, manufactured of improved materials, free from smell, a good colour, may be carried without guttering, burn longer than ordinary dips, give a better light, very moderate in price. Preferable for Schools, Chapels, Private Families, and indeed for the general use of all.
 Sold by all Grocers and Candle Dealers, and wholesale by PALMER and CO., the Patentees, Victoria Works, Green-street, Bethnal-green, London, N.E.

TRADE MARK.

BROWN and POLSON'S
PATENT CORN FLOUR
 is much recommended
 FOR CHILDREN'S DIET.

RECIPE FOR SPONGE CAKE.—Half-pound of Corn Flour, quarter or half-pound of butter, and two tea-spoonsful of Baking Powder, to be very well mixed together. Take three eggs, and beat the yolks and whites separately for fifteen minutes; then add to them quarter-pound bruised white sugar; mix all together, flavour to taste, and beat for fifteen minutes; put it into a well-buttered tin, papered all round two inches deeper than the tin; bake in a quick oven for one hour.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY
 VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY.

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome.

Sold in bottles, 8s. 8d. each, at the retail houses in London; by the agents in the principal towns in England; or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, London, W.

Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

TONIC BITTERS.—WATERS' QUININE
 WINE, the most palatable and wholesome Bitter in existence; an efficient Tonic, an unequalled stomachic, and a gentle stimulant. Sold by Grocers, Italian Warehousemen, Wine Merchants, Confectioners, and others, at 30s. a dozen. Manufactured by Robert Waters, 2, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, London. Wholesale Agents, E. Lewis and Co., Worcester.

LAUNDRY COMFORTS INCREASED!

The beneficial and emollient advantages of GLYCERINE, for softening the skin and preventing or curing cracked hands, are secured by Landresses or Servants when using Harper Twelvrees' popular Preparation of

GLYCERINE and SOAP-POWDER,
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